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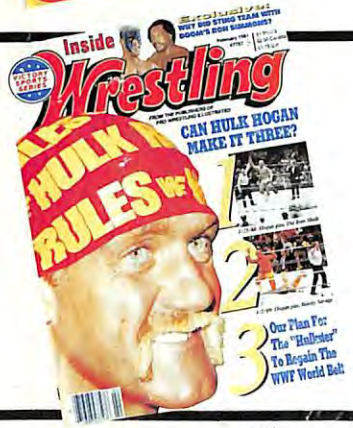

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An in-depth career review of the "Total Package"

Sid Justice's spectacular arrival in the WWF reminds many people of Hulk Hogan's entrance into the federation back in 1983. It only took Hogan a month to win the World title, and though Justice may not succeed that quickly, his impact is being felt just as dramatically. For more on Justice, see the feature on page 34.

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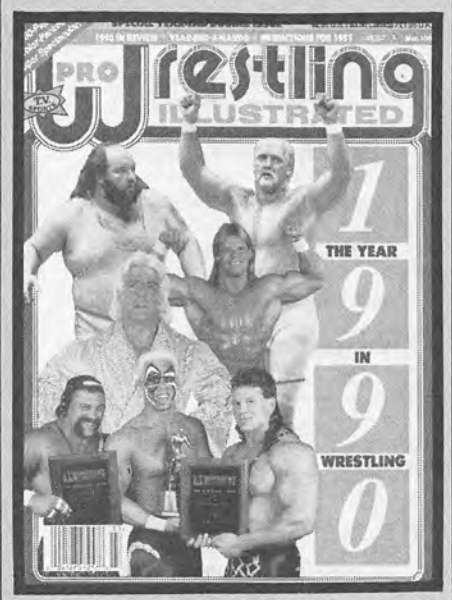
SALUTING "SUPERCARDS '91"

The Supercards '91 feature in our August 1991 issue drew a huge response from our readers, most of it favorable. Many fans were very impressed by the pic-



tures that accompanied the story.

"The photographs of the WCW card in Japan were fantastic," wrote one fan. "There was obviously a tremendous amount of action in that card and the pictures—particularly those of the Japanese wrestlers—really brought it out. Thanks for your really fine coverage."

"That issue really gave me a flavor for the big cards," wrote an Australian reader. "I was one of the unlucky ones who never got to see WrestleMania VII, but thanks to Craig Peters' account, I feel like I was there in person! When is WrestleMania coming 'down under'?"

The Undertaker's gruesome crimes against former WWF World champion The Ultimate Warrior should not be romanticized, writes reader Darren Samper.

UNDERTAKING REALITY

I'd like to comment on Dave Rosenbaum's Undertaker article in your August '91 issue ("Buried Alive! The Ultimate Warrior's Night Of Terror"). I don't think it's right that Undertaker gets so much publicity. His actions are very dangerous and shouldn't be romanticized by anyone in the press—including your Mr. Rosenbaum.

Death is a very serious matter, and locking someone in a casket, as Undertaker did to Ultimate Warrior, is an absolutely reprehensible act. Yet your article glorified Undertaker's dirty deed to the point where it became more fantasy than the harsh reality that it was. There is nothing romantic or enticing about what Undertaker did. Instead of allowing his crime to take on the media luster of a mafia job or a Butch-and-Sundance bank robbery, he should have been sternly and quickly reprimanded.

DARREN SAMPER
Oakdale, CA

While I don't approve of what Undertaker did to Ultimate Warrior, I have to admit the guy is doing a good thing for himself. He clearly has the advantage of intimidation on his side, and if his opponents are scared, he has won half the battle already. I guess it's all just part of the game.

MANNY BRONTON
Boca Raton, FL

BE QUIET, NIKITA!

Nikita Koloff complaining that somebody cheated him? ("Nikita Koloff: 'You Cheated Me!' Lex Luger: 'I'll *Destroy* You!' " August 1991) Well ain't that the cat's pajamas! How can that disgusting eel say anything about anyone else after all the cheating he's done in his career? What a louse!

Koloff has always been a lowdown menace and now he's a hypocrite, too. A cheater accusing someone else of cheating, that just doesn't make sense.

MADELINE SOUR
Oklahoma City, OK

Nikita Koloff is a lowdown cheater who deserves to lose to U.S. champion Lex Luger. At least, that's what reader Madeline Sour thinks.

KEEP SCREAMING, LEX!

I'm a big fan of Lex Luger's and I just want to say, "Go get 'im, Lex! I hope you really do destroy Nikita Koloff!"

Lex is the best wrestler in the sport and he has one of the kindest hearts. He doesn't deserve to have Koloff calling him a cheater. I don't know what's going to happen with this feud, but I know one thing: Lex doesn't forget. I'm happy to hear him threatening Koloff, because I know Lex doesn't make empty threats. If you do something wrong to Lex, he makes sure to get his revenge. You'll be sorry you ever opened your fat mouth, Koloff!

ERIC GORDON
New York

THANKS, 'QUAKE

I had to write to thank the mighty Earthquake for yet another job well done. I'm referring to Earthquake squishing and killing Jake Roberts' snake, Damian. For years, Roberts has been scaring his opponents out of their wits with his snake. He made a big mistake when he tried to scare Earthquake!

Now Roberts brings an even

(Continued on page 46)

When Earthquake crushed Jake Roberts' snake Damian, reader Paul Esner cheered him on heartily. He warns Roberts that 'Quake may also crush the new snake, Lucifer.

10 YEARS AGO IN *PWI*

The cover story in the October 1981 issue detailed the claim of "U.S. Champion Roddy Piper: 'Dusty Rhodes Has Made Me Great'." Why? "Now that I have wrestled Rhodes," Piper said in the story, "and the national spotlight has shown exactly how great and brilliant I am, I don't believe I'll ever suffer from a lack of attention again." Indeed!

The centerfold featured Ted DiBiase, who, at the time, was a purely scientific fan favorite competing in the Georgia area. He was teaming often with Junkyard Dog and Robert Fuller, and feuding violently with The Fabulous Freebirds, who nearly broke his neck.

Elsewhere in the magazine: Peter Maivia, saying that "there is no room for cowards in wrestling," vowed that "Victor Rivera must die for turning good!" . . . Bruno Sammartino offered a ringside report on a WWF title match between champion Bob Backlund and Ivan Koloff: "It was a shame that it could not have been just a good clean match, but that is the way Ivan Koloff is." . . . In that issue's "Press Conference," Tommy Rich said: "Harley Race knows the truth, and the truth is that I beat him fair and square and won the NWA title. And nothing Harley Race or anyone else says will ever change that" . . . "Why Mil Mascaras Got Involved In Wrestling's Most Violent Feud" detailed why the masked legend tried to tip the balance of power in the war between the Briscos and the Funks. Said Mascaras: "I consider [the Briscos] true gentlemen and believe they uphold the highest standards of professional wrestling."

RINGSIDE

With Bill Apter

THE BLOODY FEUD between **Nikita Koloff** and WCW U.S. champion **Lex Luger** appears to be over. For no apparent reason, the crazed Koloff has handpicked another target for his aggression—former WCW World champion **Sting**.

The rancor between these two powerful competitors began at Super Brawl '91 on May 19 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Koloff tried to ambush Luger during the classic tag team match pitting Luger and Sting against WCW World tag team champions **Rick** and **Scott Steiner**. Sting pushed Luger out of the way as Koloff tried to blast him with a chain from behind, but instead it was **Sting** who was belted in the face. After the incident, Sting and Koloff brawled all the way out into the parking lot of the Bayfront Center.

The sudden feud seemed to come to a close at Clash of the Champions XV on June 12 in Knoxville, Tennessee, as Sting pinned Koloff with a rollup to end their furious match at the 9:33 mark. Later on the card, however, Sting was greeting a young boy who won a Sting lookalike contest when Koloff again attacked, belting Sting with a chain from behind. After running Sting's head into the steel ring railing, Koloff smeared Sting's makeup all over his face before triumphantly making his way back to the dressing room.

"So Sting wants to play make-up with little kids?" bellowed Koloff after the brutal attack. "This is a **man's** sport, not play time at the Romper Room. When he beat me tonight, he pulled my trunks on the pinfall. Sting is a typical American cheater, and he hasn't heard the last of me yet—not **nearly** the last of me!"

Nikita Koloff dominated his match against Sting at Clash of the Champions XV, but it was the "Stinger" who came away with the victory. Later, the Russian blindsided his foe.

After the attack, Sting appeared unhurt, except for his pride.

"Koloff is getting a deserved reputation as the foremost sneak-attack artist in WCW," said Sting as he held an icepack to his sore neck. "He always hits people from behind. Well, I'm sick of it. I don't want anybody else but me to get matches against Koloff from now on. I beat him tonight, and I'm going to keep on beating on him until he goes back to Lithuania or Russia or **whatever** country he comes from."

Sting wasn't the only person to be sneak-attacked at Clash XV. Actor **Jason Hervey** of ABC's **The Wonder Years** was blindsided by commentator **Paul E. Dangerously**. During a heated "Danger Zone," Dangerously described Hervey's

(Continued on page 58)

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from the desk of. . .

Stuart M. Saks

Trivia quiz:
Who is the last wrestler to appear on the cover of a nationally based general sports publication?
Hulk Hogan? Wrong. Ric Flair? Uh-uh.
The answer is Derrick Dukes. Dukes, an independent wrestler who once teamed with Ricky Rice as The Top Guns to become top contenders for the AWA tag team title, was featured on the cover of *The National* sports daily (ironically, one day before the highly respected tabloid folded). The headline accompanying a full-color ring pose of Dukes read "The Fall Guy," and the story spoke of Dukes' foray into the world of professional boxing and his controversial 12-second loss to former football star Mark Gastineau.
Gastineau, the former New York Jet All-Pro defensive end, making his pro boxing debut, knocked out Dukes on a card in Salem, Virginia. Later, after *The National* reported that Dukes said of the knockout: "You've got to do what you're paid for," the legitimacy of the fight became the nation's number-one sports story.
In the days after the controversy began, Dukes made himself unavailable to the general press, though he did return my phone call. He felt everyone was attempting to assassinate his character and that he was fearful that such negative publicity would damage his wrestling career.
"Wrestling is my business," said the 25-year-old. "I was just fooling around with the boxing. I was looking for some extra money, to tell you the truth."
In truth, the reported $600 he pocketed probably wasn't worth it. Dukes, whose boxing record was 2-1 (with two KOs), took the fight on only two days' notice. He had never seen any films of Gastineau fighting (probably because he never fought before) and was not prepared for the instant onslaught of the 34-year-old former sack-dancer.
"I started out slowly, figuring he would, too, because it was his first boxing match," Dukes said. "I didn't know he would start that fast. He hit me with what I think was a left hand and—*boom!*—the lights went out."
Dukes said he was more stunned by the punch than hurt, but not nearly as stunned as when he read the quote attributed to him that implied that he had thrown the fight.
"The guy who wrote that [Jay Mariotti of *The National*] said he saw me at the airport," said Dukes, who denied making the statement. "I got to the airport at 9:30 for a 10:30 flight. He said he saw me at 8:20. Why would I be there that early?"
It was originally reported in *The National* that the Virginia Athletic Board was going to investigate the knockout, but Commissioner Doug Beavers said that was not the case. "I plan to call Dukes today and get his side of the story,

(Continued on page 48)

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THE Wrestler

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THE 25th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE OF

THE Wrestler

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WIN LOSE OR DRAW

BY ANDY RODRIGUEZ

WILLY JONES was a Rock 'n' Roll Express fan.

She was in Shelby, North Carolina, in 1985 when Robert Gibson and Ricky Morton won the NWA (now WCW) World tag team title from Ivan Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev. She cried when they lost the belts to the Koloffs in Charlotte. She screamed with delight when they regained the title from the Russian duo in Greensboro. And so it went.

When they left the federation in 1988, she knew in her heart they would return. And they did.

Now, Morton has taken a full-fledged turn to rulebreaking, and Willy Jones is wondering if there's anything in this sport worth believing.

"I always thought that no matter what happened, no matter what any other team did, Ricky and Robert would stick together," she said. "They seemed so close, like brothers, you know?

"I would like to know how this happened," Willy continued, almost demanding an answer. "It isn't right. It isn't fair."

Robert Gibson doesn't have an answer for Willy. That's because he doesn't have an answer for himself.

"It's caught me by surprise, that's for sure," Gibson said over lunch on a day where he had just received the news that Morton walked out on Dustin Rhodes during a tag team match the previous night. "I'm still kind of in a daze over it. And I even feel some guilt about it. I have to believe that if I hadn't gone down with this knee injury, we never would have split up."

Perhaps. The Rock 'n' Rolls had worked their way back into contention for a fifth WCW World title when Gibson sustained his injury in a match against Doom.

The Rock 'n' Roll Express (double-teaming Ivan Koloff) was one of the greatest tag teams in WCW history. Now the team is no more.

While Gibson underwent surgery and therapy, Morton looked for partners. He enjoyed a brief pairing with Tommy Rich (they even combined with Junkyard Dog to win the WCW six-man title). He thought he'd made an even better choice in Dustin Rhodes.

Then he met Alexandra York.

"I don't know what Ricky saw in her," Gibson wondered. "She may have a lot of computer expertise, but we won four titles. Why would we need somebody telling us what move to make? It's a load of bull that I don't need and neither does Ricky."

To further his point, Gibson recalled an incident that occurred some five years ago, when he raised the possibility of the team's having a manager.

"Rick flew off the handle when I brought that up," Gibson said. "He thought I'd lost my mind. I only suggested it because at the time we were locked in a major feud with The Midnight Express and we needed a way to stop Jim Cornette from interfering. But Rick wouldn't have any of it. He said this—and it almost seems funny now—'our strength is our freedom, and we don't need some manager telling us what to do.'

"Sure, it's possible for Rick to change his mind, but knowing him the way I do, it's hard to believe," Gibson added. "No, he's not doing this because he wants a manager.

(Continued on page 54)

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WITH CRAIG PETERS

A TOO-SMALL STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

One Man Gang and Kevin Sullivan attack El Gigante

Everybody in this sport is out to make a name for themselves. And it's not easy. When a competitor enters a federation packed with talented athletes, he or she has to make a big splash in order to get some big attention.

So what happens? We have sneak-attacks, from-behind ambushes, and all manner of sleazy activity designed to garner attention and/or title shots for the attacker.

The latest example of this was in WCW. Dick Slater and Dick Murdoch—known collectively as The Hardline Collection Agency—ambushed the Steiners following the champions' Clash of the Champions XV match against Hiro Hase and Masa Chono in Knoxville, Tennessee. Final medical reports were unavailable at press time, but it appears that Slater and Murdoch have broken Rick Steiner's left arm.

The good news, though, is not good enough: WCW fined Slater and Murdoch $5,000. But the fine was levied for attacking the referee, not for attacking Rick! And how much damage does a $5,000 fine *really* do? Why not levy a $50,000 fine? Why not suspend Murdoch and Slater for six months? Why not take some action that would make certain such attacks don't take place again in the future?

WCW had the right idea in this case. Unfortunately, they didn't carry that idea through.

NO JUSTICE FOR SID

Sid Vicious saves Ric Flair from Sting

I have to disagree with Dave Rosenbaum's cover story in this issue. I don't believe at all that Sid Justice (or Vicious or whatever you want to call him this month) is the second coming of Hulk Hogan.

And I hope that every wrestler in the WWF who finds himself lulled into what I believe is a false sense of security will pay attention to what I have to say.

Sid, let us not forget, was a member in good standing of the now-defunct Four Horsemen. He was, according to many accounts, the favored Horseman where Ric Flair was concerned. As such, Sid was in a position to learn a great deal from the "Nature Boy."

One thing Sid must have paid close attention to was the method by which Flair lulled his opponents (both in the ring and out of it) into a false sense of security. By begging for mercy when he needed none, by playing possum, by letting his foe think he had Flair in the palm of his hand, the "Nature Boy" was able to heap victory upon victory—and World title upon World title.

Sid, I believe, learned all this from Flair.

The WWF would love to have another Hulk Hogan on their hands. The idea of Sid as a fan favorite is almost too good to be true.

It is.

Rather than the second coming of Hulk Hogan, Sid Justice may in fact (and in attitude, certainly not skills) be the second coming of Ric Flair.

WWF beware!

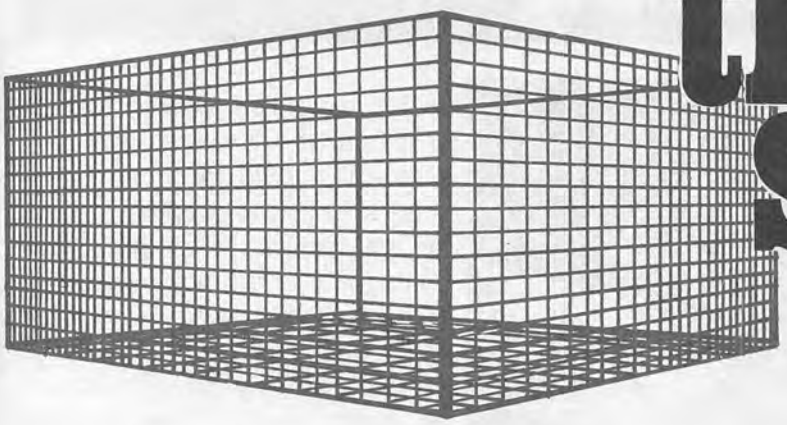
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Every once in a while, I'll use part of this column to clue you in on special issues of *PWI* that are upcoming. This time, I'd like to clue you in on a very special issue of one of our sister publications that's not to be missed.

The October 1991 edition of *The Wrestler* will mark the 25th anniversary of the sport's longest-lived magazine. By way of celebration, a ton of research is currently underway. The current editors are scouring every issue of *The Wrestler* to highlight the most important stories of the past 25 years. Plus, all the men and women who have served as editors of *The Wrestler* for the past 25 years (minus two who have, sadly, passed away) are compiling a list of the top 25 wrestlers during the *Wrestler* years. The current photography staff is busy combing the files to choose the most memorable photos. A year-by-year review of the sport will be included, along with a bonus color section that is shaping up to be a genuine collectors' item.

"Looking back through the early issues of *The Wrestler* is like mining for gold," said Associate Publisher Stu Saks, who is spearheading the anniversary project. "I can guarantee that this issue is a keeper. Longtime fans will be amazed by the memories this issue will bring back, while newer fans will learn a world's worth of knowledge about the history and heritage of this great sport."

The October 1991 issue of *The Wrestler* goes on sale August 13. Don't miss it. □



the steel cage

By Bob Smith

I SEE IWCCW. IWCCW. Say it five times fast. Personally, I think the designation contains one letter too many. One of the most frequent questions we receive in our "Ratings Analysis" mailbag is about this fledgling federation. "Just what does IWCCW *mean,* anyway?" ask many fans.

Allow me to set the record straight. IWCCW stands for International World Class Championship Wrestling (say *that* five times fast). This new organization was devised after World Class, a federation that had been in existence since the early-'80s, folded late in 1990.

Instead of letting the federation die, World Class officials decided to merge its talent with that of International Championship Wrestling (ICW), and a new federation—and a tongue-twister of an abbreviation—was born.

The Billion-Dollar Babies and their manager, Kevin Casey, gang up on Joe Savoldi. This is everyday action for the rulebreakers of IWCCW.

Like any new league, the IWCCW experienced its share of growing pains, but seems to have hit its stride in recent months. When I attended a television taping on June 5 in Brooklyn, New York, I was stunned to find that it was completely sold out.

Happy days for IWCCW? Not quite. The federation is promising, but it also is developing a reputation for being a haven for society's reprobates.

When I strolled into the IWCCW rulebreakers' dressing area before the card, I wasn't quite prepared for a trek through the gates of hell. However, I can think of no better description of what took place before my disbelieving eyes.

In one corner, ICW champion Tony Atlas and "Boston Bad Boy" Tony Rumble were trading hard forearm smashes to the chest. Rumble was surely getting the worst of it—Atlas' biceps measure 23 inches—but he kept right on delivering the smashes. "Puts Tony in the proper mood for kicking butt," Rumble told me.

In the center of the room sat The Tasmaniac, another member of Rumble's stable, which he's dubbed "The Brotherhood." This junior heavyweight hellraiser wasn't doing anything at all—except, of course, drooling and howling at the top of his lungs for no apparent reason.

In the back, Equalizers Zip, Zap, and Zoom were in the throws of a loud argument with The Billion-Dollar Babies—G.Q. Stratus and Mike Sampson—and their manager, Kevin Casey. The Babies are the IWCCW tag team champions, which ticks off the three Z's something royal. With two near-fights and a primal screaming session in progress, I decided to get out before I jeopardized my own health.

Atlas, who still boasts an incredible physique, has wisely dropped his Saba Simba guise. After leaving the WWF in April, Atlas returned to IWCCW and immediately regained the ICW title from Vic Steamboat. That victory seems to have started a domino effect: The Babies used a locker room sneak-attack engineered by Casey to beat the popular Madison Brothers for the tag title in June. And

at the card I attended, Rumble used his batting helmet to kayo Ray Odyssey and help Tasmaniac illegally win the light heavyweight title.

This serious problem has been duly noted by IWCCW officials. There are simply *too many* rulebreakers, and the ones who are in the federation are particularly odious.

"Something's gotta be done," complained Odyssey, still rubbing his head after being smashed with Rumble's hard plastic hat. "Personally, I put the blame on Rumble. He works his men up to a fever pitch, and by the time they

Moments after Tony Atlas vanquished Dusty Wolfe, he was surprised by Tito Santana, who gave the IWCCW fan favorites a tremendous boost.

reach the ring, they're just like animals. But I also put the blame on the IWCCW officials. *Somebody* must've seen Tony hit me with the helmet, but nobody's doing anything about it."

"We *do* have a problem," admitted flustered IWCCW promoter Howard Rapp. "Most federations have rulebreakers that cause problems, but ours are so particularly vile. In the case of Odyssey, the referee in that match was Tom Fornini, and he was knocked out when Rumble hit Odyssey. Unfortunately, only the referee can call for the reversal of a decision—and Tommy didn't. As for the Madisons, our rulebook only covers acts that occur *in* the ring, not in the locker room—and nobody saw the Babies attack G.Q. It's the Madisons' word against Casey's, and that's just not enough proof."

Such excuses won't make Odyssey and the Madisons feel better, but someone recently entered IWCCW who's capable of helping clean out this crowded house. After Atlas beat Dusty Wolfe in Brooklyn, the arrogant champion stood inside the ring, challenging "all comers." Imagine Atlas' surprise when Tito Santana raced out of the locker room and blasted him with a dropkick.

"Damn fool!" screamed Atlas after he ran to the locker room in terror. "What's Santana doing here? I thought he was in the WWF! He's gonna pay for embarrassing me. He's got no business crossing over into *my* domain."

That's not how the IWCCW fan favorites greeted Santana's arrival. In the opposite locker room, Santana was hailed by Joe Savoldi, Odyssey, Curly Moe, and the Madisons as a conquering hero.

"*This* is what IWCCW needs," said Savoldi as he shook Santana's hand. "We need more brave men who can prove that Rumble and his stooges don't run things around here. More importantly, we need to get together, to establish teamwork. If we work as a unit, we can regain control of this federation. Remember, even The Four Horsemen didn't last forever."

The Tasmaniac won the IWCCW light heavyweight title after his manager, Tony Rumble, crushed Ray Odyssey with a batting helmet.

Meanwhile, in the opposite dressing room, Zip, Zap, and a huge masked guy called Psycho were watching intently as Tasmaniac was celebrating his championship victory by eating what appeared to be a bowl of hard-boiled eggs. Rumble grabbed one and handed it to me. Not wishing to offend anyone, I popped the soft, chewy food into my mouth and swallowed.

"Pretty tasty," I told Rumble. "What kind of eggs are these, anyway?"

"*Eggs?*" asked Rumble incredulously. "These are boiled monkey eyes, you simp. Tas was raised on 'em."

The rulebreakers howled in laughter. Retching, I ran for the men's room.

Just another day in IWCCW, the wrestling equivalent of the Bronx Zoo. □

BY EDDIE ELLNER

off the Top Rope

If you wish to contribute to Ellner's mailbag, send your letters to:

TOP ROPE, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571

[Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this column are those of the letter writers and Eddie Ellner himself. They do not necessarily represent the editorial views of this magazine.]

SOME INSTITUTIONS SEEM secure, unshakable and forever enduring. A spring day at the ballpark. Barbecues on the Fourth of July. Autumn leaves turning color. Christmas shopping. Sawdust on the floor of your hometown bar.

Then, one day you return home and discover the local bar—the site of your first beer, best kiss, and favorite juke box—has been turned into a cafe with pretty tablecloths and a minimum table charge.

Face it, some things should never change. Like The Freebirds. Roberts, Gordy, and Hayes. Badstreet Party Animals. Jack Daniel's mouthwash. Opponents turned into raw hamburger meat. Not the best or the prettiest, but always, always the baddest. Now Hayes teams with fluffy, chubby midget pinup boy Jim Garvin and a masked jumping bean named Badstreet, and he still calls himself a Freebird? To hell with their U.S. tag team belts. The real Freebirds never cared about belts; they lusted after mayhem and blood.

It's like Lynyrd Skynyrd touring with Donnie Osmond, or the Allman Brothers jamming with the New Kids On The Block. It shatters your sense of permanence and forces you to nervously consider what treachery waits around the corner.

Like the mail.

Dear Eddie,

What do you think is the year's biggest story so far? If the year-end awards were given out today, what would be your choice for Wrestler and Match of the Year?

JEFF STACY
Dearborn, MI

Dear Jeff,

The biggest story thus far in 1991 concerns the "nay" *PWI Weekly* bestowed upon its favorite son, Rick Morton, over Morton's alleged affiliation with Alexandra York. I never

(Continued on page 50)

The Freebirds are *not* Jim Garvin and Michael Hayes (above left), they are Hayes, Terry Gordy, and Buddy Roberts (above right). And don't even mention Badstreet, "Diamond" Dallas Page, and Big Daddy Dink.

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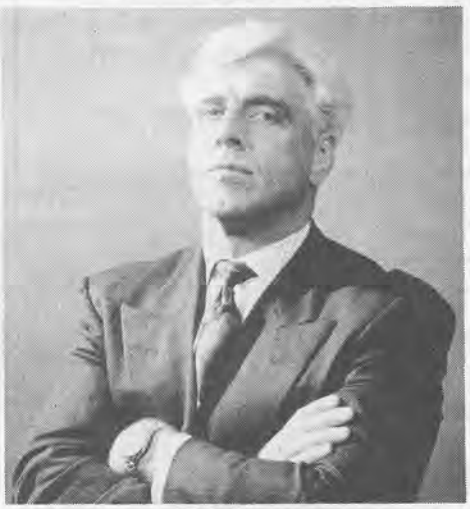
PWI's TOP 10



Ric Flair

TOP 10

1. **RIC FLAIR**
   243, Minneapolis, MN
   (1) WCW World champion
2. **HULK HOGAN**
   292, Venice Beach, CA
   (2) WWF World champion
3. **LEX LUGER**
   290, Chicago, IL
   (3) WCW U.S. champion
4. **CURT HENNIG**
   235, Minneapolis, MN
   (5) WWF Intercontinental champion
5. **STING**
   260, Venice Beach, CA
   (6) No. 2 contender: WCW title
6. **SGT. SLAUGHTER**
   310, Parris Island, SC
   (9) No. 2 contender: WWF title
7. **TOM PRICHARD**
   220, Houston, TX
   (-) USWA Texas champion
8. **STEVE WILLIAMS**
   265, Norman, OK
   (-) UWF TV champion
9. **BOBBY EATON**
   233, Huntsville, AL
   (-) WCW TV champion
10. **NIKITA KOLOFF**
    275, Lithuania
    (7) No. 1 contender: U.S. title

TAG TEAMS

1. **RICK & SCOTT STEINER**
   Combined weight: 483 pounds
   (1) WCW World tag team champions
2. **THE NASTY BOYS**
   Combined weight: 585 pounds
   (2) WWF World tag team champions
3. **THE FREEBIRDS**
   Combined weight: 490 pounds
   (4) WCW U.S. tag team champions
4. **THE YOUNG PISTOLS**
   Combined weight: 451 pounds
   (6) No. 1 contenders: U.S. tag team title
5. **ROBERT FULLER & JEFF JARRETT**
   Combined weight: 457 pounds
   (7) USWA tag team champions
6. **THE BUSHWHACKERS**
   Combined weight: 542 pounds
   (-) No. 1 contenders: WWF tag team title
7. **THE ROCKERS**
   Combined weight: 450 pounds
   (5) No. 2 contenders: WWF tag team title
8. **THE BRUISE BROTHERS**
   Combined weight: 541 pounds
   (8) Pacific Northwest tag team champions
9. **DICK MURDOCH & DICK SLATER**
   Combined weight: 515 pounds
   (-) No. 1 contenders: WCW tag team title
10. **THE ORIENT EXPRESS**
    Combined weight: 461 pounds
    (9) No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title

WCW

World Champion:
RIC FLAIR
(C) 243, Minneapolis, MN

1—**LEX LUGER** *(1) 290, Chicago, IL*
2—**STING** *(3) 260, Venice Beach, CA*
3—**BOBBY EATON** *(6) 233, Huntsville, AL*
4—**NIKITA KOLOFF** *(4) 275, Lithuania*
5—**EL GIGANTE** *(7) 435, Argentina*
6—**STEVE AUSTIN** *(-) 241, Dallas, TX*
7—**BARRY WINDHAM** *(-) 263, Sweetwater, TX*
8—**DUSTIN RHODES** *(-) 254, Austin, TX*
9—**TERRENCE TAYLOR** *(-) 225, Vero Beach, FL*
10—**BLACK BLOOD** *(-) 245, parts unkown*

WWF

World Champion:
HULK HOGAN
(C) 292, Venice Beach, CA

1—**CURT HENNIG** *(1) 235, Minneapolis, MN*
2—**SGT. SLAUGHTER** *(2) 310, Parris Island, SC*
3—**THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR** *(3) 280, Queens, NY*
4—**THE UNDERTAKER** *(4) 320, Dallas, TX*
5—**DAVEY BOY SMITH** *(6) 245, Leeds, England*
6—**THE MOUNTIE** *(-) 232, Montreal, Quebec*
7—**IRWIN R. SHYSTER** *(10) 245, Syracuse, NY*
8—**RODDY PIPER** *(9) 231, Glasgow, Scotland*
9—**TED DiBIASE** *(-) 247, Omaha, NB*
10—**EARTHQUAKE** *(7) 462, Surrey, BC*

USWA

USWA Champion:
JERRY LAWLER
(C) 234, Memphis, TN

1—**TOM PRICHARD** *(4) 220, Houston, TX*
2—**ERIC EMBRY** *(2) 240, Lexington, KY*
3—**BILL DUNDEE** *(1) 214, Melbourne, Aus.*
4—**EDDIE GILBERT** *(3) 222, Lexington, TN*
5—**CHRIS CANDIDO** *(-) 227, Carteret, NJ*
6—**TONY ANTHONY** *(-) 235, Bucksnort, TN*
7—**TERRY DANIELS** *(8) 223, Charlotte, NC*
8—**EL GRANDE PISTOLERO** *(-) 225, Mexico*
9—**GARY YOUNG** *(9) 218, Houston, TX*
10—**TEXAS RANGER** *(-) 280, parts unknown*

PNW

PNW Champion:
STEVE DOLL
(C) 237, Dallas, TX

1—**THE GRAPPLER** *(10) 280, parts unknown*
2—**MIKE WINNER** *(7) 238, Virginia City, VA*
3—**STEVE SAWYER** *(6) 222, Kansas City, MO*
4—**JIMMY JACK FUNK** *(1) 243, Portland, OR*
5—**LARRY OLIVER** *(4) 260, Tampa, FL*
6—**AL MADRIL** *(3) 231, Los Angeles, CA*
7—**DOUG MASTERS** *(5) 230, Tulsa, OK*
8—**C.W. BERGSTROM** *(-) 250, Portland, OR*
9—**CRUSH** *(-) 310, parts unknown*
10—**THE EQUALIZER** *(2) 250, parts unknown*

OFFICIAL RATINGS

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board. Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our offices. All other ratings are based on the official current positions of challengers to the top title in each category; certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue, while (C) indicates the wrestler was champion in that category last issue.

For period ended June 14, 1991

MOST POPULAR

1. **HULK HOGAN**
   292, Venice Beach, CA
   Last issue: No. 1 Most Popular
2. **LEX LUGER**
   290, Chicago, IL
   Last issue: No. 2 Most Popular
3. **STING**
   260, Venice Beach, CA
   Last issue: No. 4 Most Popular
4. **SCOTT STEINER**
   235, Bay City, MI
   Last issue: unrated
5. **EL GIGANTE**
   435, Argentina
   Last issue: No. 5 Most Popular
6. **JERRY LAWLER**
   234, Memphis, TN
   Last issue: No. 7 Most Popular
7. **THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR**
   280, Queens, NY
   Last issue: No. 3 Most Popular
8. **RICK STEINER**
   248, Detroit, MI
   Last issue: unrated
9. **SID JUSTICE**
   318, West Memphis, AR
   Last issue: unrated
10. **BOBBY EATON**
    233, Huntsville, AL
    Last issue: unrated

MOST HATED

1. **NIKITA KOLOFF**
   275, Lithuania
   Last issue: No. 3 Most Hated
2. **EARTHQUAKE**
   462, Surrey, BC
   Last issue: No. 4 Most Hated
3. **THE UNDERTAKER**
   320, Dallas, TX
   Last issue: No. 1 Most Hated
4. **RIC FLAIR**
   243, Minneapolis, MN
   Last issue: No. 2 Most Hated
5. **SGT. SLAUGHTER**
   310, Parris Island, SC
   Last issue: No. 5 Most Hated
6. **CURT HENNIG**
   235, Minneapolis, MN
   Last issue: No. 7 Most Hated
7. **ERIC EMBRY**
   240, Lexington, KY
   Last issue: No. 6 Most Hated
8. **RICK MORTON**
   228, Memphis, TN
   Last issue: unrated
9. **THE MOUNTIE**
   232, Montreal, Quebec
   Last issue: unrated
10. **ARN ANDERSON**
    249, Minneapolis, MN
    Last issue: No. 8 Most Hated

CUMULATIVE RATINGS

These ratings are based on the past 10 issues of this magazine. We have examined our ratings for each of those issues—in our Top 10 and Tag Team categories only—and assigned each position a point value: 10 points for a number-one rating, nine for a number-two ranking, and so on down to one point for a number-10 rating. The point values for all wrestlers in the past 10 issues have been compiled, allowing a maximum of 100 points. Each issue we'll present the top five finishers in each category. While our regular ratings reflect the past month, these cumulative ratings give an indication of wider trends in the sport.

SINGLES

1—STING ..... 73 points
2—LEX LUGER ..... 72 points
3—RIC FLAIR ..... 64 points
4—CURT HENNIG ..... 61 points
5—HULK HOGAN ..... 59 points

TAG TEAMS

1—RICK & SCOTT STEINER ..... 89 points
2—THE HART FOUNDATION ..... 65 points
3—DOOM ..... 56 points
4—NASTY BOYS ..... 52 points
5—LEGION OF DOOM ..... 42 points

UWF

UWF TV Champion:
STEVE WILLIAMS
(1) 265, Norman, OK

1—**BAM BAM BIGELOW**
(2) 368, Mt. Laurel, NJ
2—**TERRY GORDY**
(4) 289, Chattanooga, TN
3—**PAUL ORNDORFF**
(-) 253, Brandon, FL
4—**BOB BACKLUND**
(-) 242, Princeton, MN
5—**JOHNNY ACE**
(-) 250, San Bernadino, CA
6—**BOB ORTON**
(7) 245, Kansas City, KS
7—**STEVE RAY**
(3) 255, Leavenworth, KS
8—**SUNNY BEACH**
(-) 270, Santa Monica, CA
9—**CACTUS JACK**
(-) 277, Truth Or Cons., NM
10—**IVAN KOLOFF**
(10) 249, Moscow, Russia

IWCCW

IWCCW Champion:
NONE
To be determined

1—**TONY ATLAS**
(1) 247, Roanoke, VA
2—**KEVIN VON ERICH**
(2) 235, Denton, TX
3—**TASMANIAC**
(5) 245, Tasmania
4—**RAY ODYSSEY**
(-) 205, Palm Beach, FL
5—**SCOTT PUTSKI**
(10) 235, Austin, TX
6—**G.Q. MADISON**
(-) 244, New York, NY
7—**MONDO KLEEN**
(-) 270, Jilin, China
8—**IVAN PUTSKI**
(-) 242, Krakow, Poland
9—**JOE SAVOLDI**
(6) 220, Parsippany, NJ
10—**CURLY MOE**
(9) 555, Mudville, OH

GEORGIA: **Georgia All-Star champion**—Joel Deaton; **1**—Steve Lawler; **2**—Billy Black; **3**—Fabian; **4**—Nick Busick; **5**—Chris Walker; **6**—Randy Rose; **7**—Jon Michaels; **8**—Mike Cervich; **9**—Van Hammer; **10**—Festus.

IWA: **IWA champion**—Manny Fernandez; **1**—Preston Steele; **2**—Jules Strongbow; **3**—Derrick Dukes; **4**—Thunderfoot I; **5**—Thunderfoot II; **6**—Larry Cameron; **7**—Rikki Nelson; **8**—Bob Orton; **9**—Col. DeBeers; **10**—Hillbilly Cousin Luke.

LPWA: **LPWA champion**—Lady X; **1**—Reggie Bennett; **2**—Terri Power; **3**—Susan Sexton; **4**—Bambi; **5**—Madusa Miceli; **6**—Misty Blue Simmes; **7**—Denise Storm; **8**—Heidi Lee Morgan; **9**—The Beast; **10**—Magnificent Mimi.

PWA: **PWA champion**—Charlie Norris; **1**—Larry Cameron; **2**—Ken Patera; **3**—Teijho Khan; **4**—Ricky Rice; **5**—Tommy Ferrara; **6**—Lightning Kid; **7**—Jerry Lynn; **8**—The Punisher; **9**—Bill Irwin; **10**—Tommy Jammer.

SAPW: **SAPW champion**—Vince Torelli; **1**—Chris Chavis; **2**—Curtis Thompson; **3**—Ranger Ross; **4**—Paul Jones; **5**—Ivan Koloff; **6**—Tommy Seabolt; **7**—Ron Garvin; **8**—Wahoo McDaniel; **9**—Jackie Fulton; **10**—Bobby Fulton.

TRI-STATE: **Tri-State champion**—D.C. Drake; **1**—J.T. Smith; **2**—Tony Stetson; **3**—Larry Winters; **4**—Johnny Hot Body; **5**—Cactus Jack; **6**—Rockin' Rebel; **7**—Jimmy Jannetty; **8**—C.N. Redd; **9**—Mr. Sandman; **10**—Cry Baby Waldo.

WWC: **WWC champion**—Carlos Colon; **1**—Polynesian Prince; **2**—Dino Bravo; **3**—King Kong; **4**—TNT; **5**—Invader I; **6**—Abdullah the Butcher; **7**—Rod Price; **8**—Giant Warrior; **9**—Dick Murdoch; **10**—Ron Garvin.

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating over 200 wrestlers in 20 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

The top contenders. In response to many reader requests, this issue's "Ratings Analysis" focuses on the top contenders to two important titles: the WCW U.S. championship and the WWF Intercontinental belt.

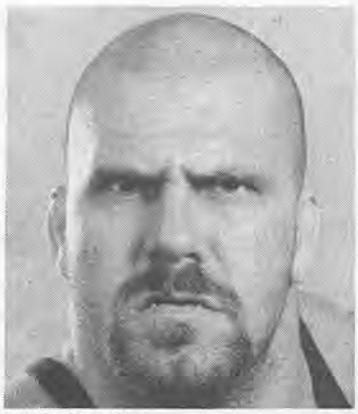
WWF INTERCONTINENTAL TITLE
Champion:
CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN
1—DAVEY BOY SMITH
245, Leeds, England
2—KERRY VON ERICH
260, Denton, TX
3—BIG BOSSMAN
277, Cobb County, GA
4—RODDY PIPER
231, Glasgow, Scotland
5—IRWIN R. SHYSTER
245, Syracuse, NY

Irwin R. Shyster

Davey Boy Smith

Analysis: Smith, the former member of **The British Bulldogs** (with **Dynamite Kid**), has gained the majority of opportunities at "Mr. Perfect's" belt in recent weeks, but has been pinned by Hennig several times. He's in danger of dropping to the number-two slot . . . The "Texas Tornado," the man Hennig beat for the title, won several battle royals to face Hennig in May, but mainly won his title bouts by disqualification . . . Bossman beat Hennig by DQ at WrestleMania VII, but since has engaged in a lengthy feud against **The Mountie** . . . The "Rowdy Scot" came the closest of these contenders to beating Hennig in late-1990, but recently has become sidetracked in a feud with **Ted DiBiase** . . . Shyster, formerly known as **Michael Wall Street**—and before that, **Mike Rotundo**—is undefeated after returning to the WWF.

WCW U.S. TITLE
Champion:
LEX LUGER
290, Chicago, IL
1—NIKITA KOLOFF
275, Lithuania
2—BARRY WINDHAM
263, Sweetwater, TX
3—STAN HANSEN
322, Borger, TX
4—DAN SPIVEY
300, Tampa, FL
5—STEVE AUSTIN
241, Dallas, TX


Nikita Koloff

Analysis: The "Russian Nightmare" has received the bulk of the title matches against the "Total Package" in recent weeks, but Luger has turned back the challenge of the muscular rulebreaker thus far . . . Windham, a former U.S. champion, is finally making his mark after the breakup of **The Four Horsemen**. He's finally been getting title opportunities . . . Hansen held the belt briefly in 1990, and now is desperate to reclaim the title . . . Spivey, viewed by many people as strictly a tag team competitor, established himself as a genuine contender to this belt with his excellent showing against Luger at Wrestle War '91 . . . "Stunning" Steve has compiled an excellent record since entering WCW. Austin was the 1990 *PWI* "Rookie of the Year."

An often-asked question . . . *How come you usually have the number two or three contenders ranked in your Top 10?* asks Annmarie Aud of Lansing, Illinois. *How can a number two or three wrestler be ranked ahead of a* ***number-one*** *contender?*

Actually, they're not, Annmarie. In our ratings system, the WCW U.S. and WWF Intercontinental champions are *automatically* ranked as the number-one contenders to the WCW and WWF World titles, respectively. However, they are listed in the Top 10 under the titles they hold.

So long for now! Got an opinion about the U.S. and I-C ratings? Have a question or complaint about any other part of our monthly rankings? Send your mail to: "Ratings Analysis," c/o *Pro Wrestling Illustrated,* Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. □

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July 1983/COLOR PINUP: Ivan Koloff. **Tommy Rich**, Patera, Von Erich, Snuka.

August 1983/COLOR PINUP: Larry Zbyszko. **Roddy Piper**, Sullivan, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Wrestling II.

November 1983/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Harley Race**, Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR PINUP: Wahoo McDaniel. **Dusty Rhodes**, Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR PINUP: Harley Race. **Rick Martel,** Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. **Greg Valentine,** Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

June 1984/COLOR PINUP: Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase,** Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR PINUP: Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant,** JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR PINUP: Stan Hansen. **Jerry Lawler,** Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

October 1984/COLOR PINUP: Billy Jack. **Kerry Von Erich,** Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Sgt. Slaughter,** Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

January 1985/COLOR PINUP: Tito Santana. **Road Warriors,** Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR PINUP: Magnum T.A. **Rick Martel,** Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

April 1985/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin, **Jimmy Snuka**, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

June 1985/COLOR PINUP: Barry Windham. **Dusty Rhodes,** Slaughter, Hogan, Von Erich, T.A.

September 1985/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A,** Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

October 1985/COLOR PINUP: Chris Adams. **Rick Steamboat,** Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

November 1985/COLOR PINUP: Randy Savage. **Ric Flair,** Slaughter, Steamboat, World Class scouting reports.

December 1985/COLOR PINUP: Jesse Ventura. **Great American Bash,** Von Erich, Orndorff, Williams & DiBiase.

January 1986/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. **Hulk Hogan,** T.A., Brody.

February 1986/COLOR PINUP: Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich,** Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.

April 1986/COLOR PINUP: Ric Flair. **Wendi Richter,** Adams & Hernandez, Dusty & Warriors vs. Flair & Andersons.

May 1986/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steamboat. **Road Warriors,** Humongous, Bulldogs, Hansen vs. Martel.

June 1986/COLOR PINUP: Kevin Von Erich. **Hulk Hogan,** Adams, Duggan, Scott Hall.

July 1986/COLOR PINUP: King Kong Bundy. **R & R Express,** Hall and Hennig, Ventura, Warriors.

August 1986/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Randy Savage,** Lugar vs. Race, Blanchard vs. Flair, Rude.

October 1986/COLOR PINUP: John Studd. **Nikita Koloff,** Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

November 1986/COLOR PINUP: Baby Doll. **British Bulldogs,** Von Erich, Hansen, Gordy, Flair-Tully-Arn-Ole.

January 1987/COLOR PINUP: Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper,** Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

February 1987/COLOR PINUP: Savage & Elizabeth. **UWF Tournament,** T.A., Baby Doll, Hogan vs. Orndorff.

May 1987/COLOR PINUP: Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan,** UWF Tourny, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

June 1987/COLOR PINUP: Hulk Hogan. **Magnum T.A.,** Can-Ams, Warriors, Freebirds, Hall.

July 1987/COLOR PINUP: Midnight Rockers. **Steamboat-Savage,** Luger, Duggan, Garvins, Sting.

August 1987/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Precious. **Hogan-Andre,** Warriors, Windham-Flair, Gordy, Bigelow.

October 1987/COLOR PINUP: Ted DiBiase. **Ric Flair,** Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

November 1987/COLOR PINUP: George Steele. **Nikita Koloff,** Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.

January 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase,** Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.

February 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin. **Randy Savage,** Garvin-Flair, Von Erichs, Freebirds.

April 1988/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger,** Flair-Garvin, Kerry, Survivor Series, Iron Sheik.

May 1988/COLOR PINUP: Sting. **Andre,** Valentine-Beefcake, Flair, Cornette, Owen Hart.

June 1988/COLOR PINUP: Tully Blanchard. **Hulk Hogan,** Muraco, Perez, Rockers, Bunkhouse Stampede.

July 1988/COLOR PINUP: Curt Hennig. **Hogan vs. Andre,** Express vs. Rockers, Beefcake, Perez, Rotundo-Sting.

August 1988/COLOR PINUP: Al Perez. **Savage & Hogan,** Gilbert-Lawler, Four Horsemen, Kerry Von Erich.

October 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ultimate Warrior. **Sting,** Savage, Lawler, Williams, Steamboat, Varsity Club.

November 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Midnight Express. **Hogan,** Rhodes, Express, Powers of Pain.

December 1988/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. **Four Horsemen,** Brody, Bigelow, Garvin, Precious.

January 1989/COLOR PINUP: Barry Windham. **Hogan-Savage-Elizabeth,** Warriors, Sting.

February 1989/COLOR PINUP: Jake Roberts. **Luger,** Hogan-Savage, Kevin Von, Beefcake-Bass.

April 1989/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steiner. **Savage,** Dangerously, Muraco, Turner, Powers.

June 1989/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steamboat. **Hogan vs. Savage**, Warriors, Zbyszko, Rhodes.

July 1989/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Steamboat,** Hogan, Paul E., Dream Tournament, Studd, Muraco.

August 1989/COLOR PINUP: Lex Luger. **Hogan,** Ultimate, Steamboat-Flair, Road Warriors, Rhodes.

October 1989/COLOR PINUP: Rick Rude. **Luger vs. Hogan,** Snuka, Sting, Lawler vs. Perez, Page.

November 1989/COLOR PINUP: Ric Flair. **Rhodes,** Steiner, Luger vs. Steamboat, Ultimate, Fuller-Jarrett.

December 1989/COLOR PINUP: Jimmy Snuka. **Luger, Vicious, Muta, Sting,** Beefcake & Hogan, Tully & Arn.

January 1990/COLOR PINUP: Sid Vicious. **Ultimate,** Cornette, Ross, Kerry.

February 1990/COLOR PINUP: Bret Hart. **Lex Luger,** Hogan, Hennig-Beefcake, Toni Adams, Woman.

April 1990/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Ric Flair,** Hennig vs. Hogan, Sting, Rockers, Lawler.

May 1990/COLOR PINUP: The Great Muta. **Hulk Hogan,** Skyscrapers, R&R Express, Piper, Embry.

June 1990/COLOR PINUP: Sting. **Hogan vs. Warrior,** R&R Express, Rhodes vs. Savage, Arn vs. Sawyer.

July 1990/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger,** Beefcake, Skyscrapers, Heenan, Saito, referees.

September 1990/PINUP: Rick & Scott Steiner. COLOR FEATURES: Sting, Hogan, Horsemen, Hennig.

October 1990/PINUP: Brutus Beefcake. COLOR FEATURES: Tugboat, Ultimate, Sting, Long, Blanchard-Orndorff.

November 1990/PINUP: Legion of Doom. COLOR FEATURES: Rude-Warrior, Sting beats Flair.

December 1990/PINUP: Sting. COLOR FEATURES: Doom, Horsemen, Legion of Doom, Kerry, Slaughter.

January 1991/PINUP: Kerry Von Erich. COLOR FEATURES: WWF vs. NWA, Hogan, Hansen, Sting, Sherri.

February 1991/PINUP: 1991 calendar. COLOR FEATURES: Scott Steiner, Vicious vs. Luger, Rhodes vs. DiBiase.

April 1991/PINUP: Tom Zenk. COLOR FEATURES: Sgt. Slaughter, Hogan & Warrior, Magnum T.A., Lawler-Gilbert.

May 1991/PINUP: Arn Anderson. COLOR FEATURES: Hogan, Rude, Flair-Sting, Thesz.

June 1991/PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. COLOR FEATURES: Hogan, Doom, Horsemen, Steiner.

July 1991/PINUP: Brian Pillman. COLOR FEATURES: Luger, Demolition, Hogan, Embry, Horsemen-Vicious.

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Scouting Report

A NO-HOLDS-BARRED LOOK AT WRESTLING'S TOP STARS

Every other month, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Scouting Reports will examine the relative strengths and weaknesses of wrestling's top stars. There will be no punches pulled as the sport's athletes undergo the harshest scrutiny anywhere in the wrestling world

VIRGIL

HOMETOWN: parts unknown
HEIGHT: 5'11"
WEIGHT: 233
YEARS AS PRO: 1
RATING: unrated

STRENGTHS:

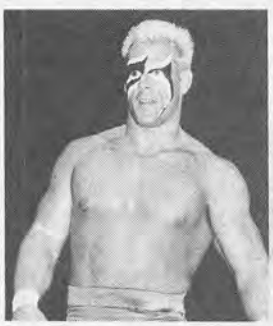
- Freedom. Away from the oppressive Ted DiBiase, the former valet is exhilarated by his emancipation.
- Educated. Counseling by Roddy Piper has taught him valuable ring skills.
- Surprisingly ringwise. Keenly observed technical master DiBiase for more than four years.

WEAKNESSES:

- Inexperience. Still feeling his way as a pro wrestler.
- Too pugilistic. Uses fists when he should be implementing wrestling holds.
- Overreaching. Should be starting at the bottom, and not allow himself to be rushed into main events.

OTHER COMMENTS: Was brought into sport by his former employer, Ted DiBiase, in 1987 . . . Did DiBiase's bidding until violent breakup at The Royal Rumble in January 1991 . . . Has developed a rapport with popular Roddy Piper . . . Defeated DiBiase by countout at WrestleMania VII.

OUTLOOK FOR '91: Virgil is so obsessed with DiBiase that he's become "Virgilina"—in full drag—to get at DiBiase's manager, Sensational Sherri. In effect, Virgil has become a valet again. Instead, Virgil should be concentrating on his *wrestling* career, which is extremely promising.



STING

HOMETOWN: Venice Beach, CA
HEIGHT: 6'2"
WEIGHT: 260
YEARS AS PRO: 5
RATING: No. 2 in WCW

STRENGTHS:

- Spirited. Feud with Nikita Koloff has renewed the enthusiasm he's lacked since losing the WCW World title.
- Daring. Uses more high-risk maneuvers than any WCW star.
- Innovative. Makes a concerted effort to come up with varied finishing maneuvers.

WEAKNESSES:

- Wary. Still has a subconscious fear of reinjuring left knee.
- Blinded by ambition. So intent on beating Ric Flair, he's lost sight of other worthy titles.
- One-upsmanship. Feels he must counter a good move with an even flashier one.

OTHER COMMENTS: One of the sport's most popular stars . . . Career was in doubt after rupturing left patella tendon in February 1990, but won WCW World title from Ric Flair just five months later . . . Flair regained title in January 1991 . . . Famous for "Stinger splash" and scorpion deathlock finishers.

OUTLOOK FOR '91: Since losing WCW title in January, Sting has scored several DQ and countout victories over Flair. With U.S. champion Lex Luger next in line for WCW title matches, this colorful Californian would be better off pursuing another title—for now.

REGGIE BENNETT

HOMETOWN: Venice Beach, CA
HEIGHT: 5'8"
WEIGHT: 170
YEARS AS PRO: 2
RATING: No. 1 in LPWA

STRENGTHS:

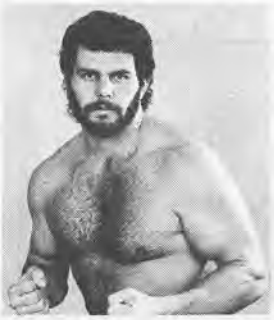
- Awesome power. Rivaled in strength only by close friend Terri Power.
- "Reggie rack." Upside-down backbreaker may be the LPWA's most effective finisher.
- Ultra-confident. Knowledge that she defeated LPWA champion Lady X in non-title bout has buoyed her resolve.

WEAKNESSES:

- Plodding. By building mass, she's sacrificed foot speed.
- Long hair. Flowing mane is often her opponents' main target.
- Fan dependent. Has trouble getting motivated if crowd isn't fully supportive.

OTHER COMMENTS: Exciting newcomer is a former bodybuilder . . . Teams often with fellow powerhouse Terri Power . . . Can bench press over 350 pounds, remarkable for a female . . . Defeated LPWA champion Lady X in a non-title match in January . . . Formerly a member of Locomotion with Cheryl Rusa.

OUTLOOK FOR '91: Blindingly bright. Bennett, along with Power, Denise Storm, and Madusa Miceli, comprise the best of the new wave of athletically gifted female competitors. If Bennett ever gets a *title* bout against Lady X, she'll be heavily favored to defeat the masked rulebreaker a second time.



GARY YOUNG

HOMETOWN: Houston, TX
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 240
YEARS AS PRO: 14
RATING: No. 9 in USWA

STRENGTHS:

- Rejuvenated. Sudden turn to scientific wrestling has revived a stagnant career.
- Unpredictable. Uses such a large assortment of styles that opponents are always off-guard.
- Wrestler's physique. Strong, yet not weighed down by bulky musculature.

WEAKNESSES:

- Marked man. Former rulebreaking mates are out to end his career.
- Stale. Has been taking on the same opponents for months; needs more variety.
- Defense. Will often take blows from an opponent when a raised guard or lateral movement will take him out of harm's way.

OTHER COMMENTS: Talented veteran is now a fan favorite after years of being a key member of Gen. Skandor Akbar's stable . . . Captured Texas title from Brickhouse Brown in 1989 . . . A USWA mainstay . . . Currently feuding with Mexican veteran El Grande Pistolero.

OUTLOOK FOR '91: Young made an excellent move in becoming a fan favorite, and he's been dominating rulebreakers such as Pistolero and Texas Ranger. However, many of the fans who hated him for years still aren't sure of his intentions. Young should prove his aim is true by targeting Texas champion Tom Prichard.

COL. MUSTAFA

HOMETOWN: Teheran, Iran
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 262
YEARS AS PRO: 18
RATING: unrated

STRENGTHS:

- Protected. Everywhere he goes, he's backed by his manager, Gen. Adnan, and Sgt. Slaughter.
- Experience. Grizzled veteran has competed in every major federation.
- Strength. Still amazes foes with his powerful suplexes.

WEAKNESSES:

- Lack of mobility. Ancient rulebreaker is incredibly, *painfully* slow.
- Huge abdomen. Should devote workouts to losing bulbous pot belly.
- Haunted. Will always be tormented by his WWF World title loss to Hulk Hogan.

OTHER COMMENTS: Mustafa is the latest name for this veteran; was formerly known as Hussein Arab and The Iron Sheik . . . Callous rulebreaker defeated Bob Backlund for the WWF World title in December 1983 . . . Defeated by Hulk Hogan a month later . . . Also held WWF World tag team title (with Nikolai Volkoff).

OUTLOOK FOR '91: Mustafa's glory days are far behind him now. Aging and bloated, he's lost several matches to Hacksaw Duggan, who himself isn't in the prime of his career. Usually, Mustafa serves as a bodyguard for Slaughter. Sadly, that's the role for which he's probably best suited.

BLACK BLOOD

HOMETOWN: parts unknown
HEIGHT: 6'3"
WEIGHT: 245
YEARS AS PRO: 1
RATING: No. 10 in WCW

STRENGTHS:

- Power. Huge upper body and arms rival anyone in WCW—or anywhere else.
- Flying forearm. Crushing drop from top turnbuckle has meant victory just about every time.
- Intimidation. Who wants to lock up with a man who looks like an executioner?

WEAKNESSES:

- Kevin Sullivan. A wrestler looks for stability from a manager. *Sullivan?*
- Tentative. On unfamiliar turf in WCW, and has yet to learn many wrestlers' strengths and weaknesses.
- Image-conscious. Determined to show fans he's a monster, he carelessly leaves himself open to attacks.

OTHER COMMENTS: Odd newcomer's identity is a well-guarded secret . . . Obviously not a rookie; wrestles with the skill of a seasoned veteran . . . Brought to WCW and managed by Kevin Sullivan . . . Many WCW officials are disturbed by the huge hatchet Sullivan brings to ringside.

OUTLOOK FOR '91: This terrifying maniac was, at press time, undefeated, but he's taken on mainly preliminary opposition. His stamina—and courage—are still in question. He'd be far better off dropping Sullivan and finding a manager more concerned with success than sadism.

If you can answer the following questions, you could be the next

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Actual questions

In which sport did Ken Patera win an Olympic medal?
1) Weightlifting 3) Gymnastics
2) Wrestling 4) Boxing

Who was Hulk Hogan's first WWF manager?
1) Fred Blassie 3) Jimmy Hart
2) Arnold Skaaland 4) Elizabeth

Which man was never a member of Paul Ellering's Legion of Doom?
1) Jake Roberts 3) King Kong Bundy
2) Hawk 4) Buzz Sawyer

For which NFL team did Brian Pillman compete?
1) Kansas City Chiefs 3) Cincinnati Bengals
2) Los Angeles Rams 4) Atlanta Falcons

Gorilla Monsoon was originally billed as being from:
1) Manchuria 3) New Jersey
2) Croatia 4) Montreal

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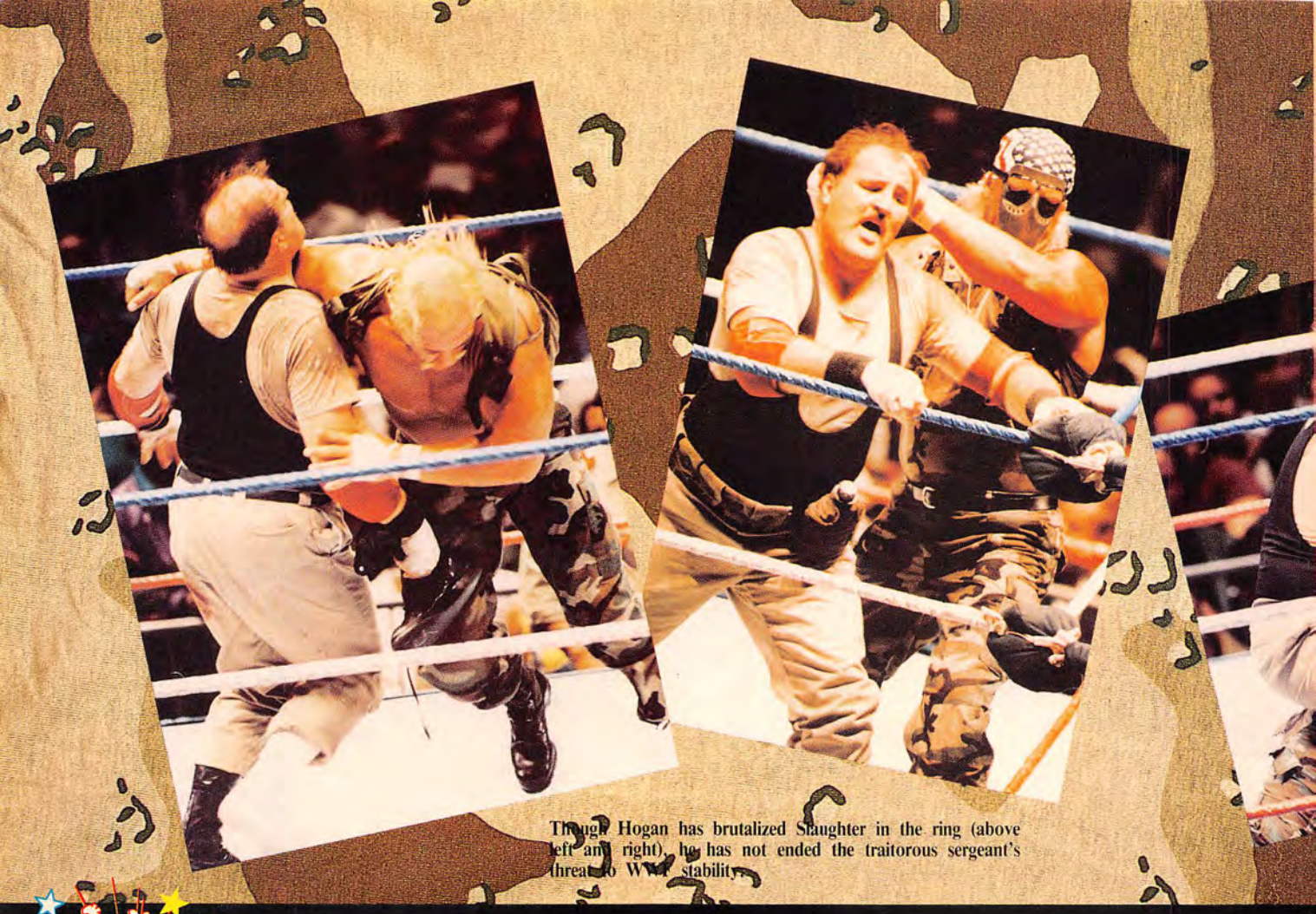
The "Desert Storm" Rages On!

HULK HOGAN WON'T STOP UNTIL SGT. SLAUGHTER IS OBLITERATED!

The job wasn't done when the United States pulled out of Iraq. The madman Hussein still rules. In the WWF, Hulk Hogan is the World champion, but Sgt. Slaughter has too much power. Their war continues—but for how much longer?



Though Hogan has brutalized Slaughter in the ring (above left and right), he has not ended the traitorous sergeant's threat to WWF stability.

By Ed Maloney

JUNE 10, 1991. It was a great day to be an American. In New York City, the biggest ticker tape parade in Big Apple history saluted the United States' victory in the Persian Gulf war. Our war heroes paraded down Broadway as reams of ticker tape rained down upon them. When the sun set, fireworks filled the skies. It was a wonderful day for democracy.

But while our soldiers marched and we saluted, while the rockets' red glare filled the air, there was still evil in Iraq. Saddam Hussein, the Butcher of Baghdad, still rules. The United States won the war, but its greatest enemy remains in power.

For that reason, it was not a total victory. Of course, killing another nation's leader only creates even greater unrest and devastation. So, Hussein walks. The world is still uneasy. President George Bush's "new world order" has yet to be achieved.

In the WWF, Hulk Hogan won the World title from Sgt. Slaughter at WrestleMania VII. By doing so, he dethroned one of this country's greatest enemies.

But, like the United States' victory in the Persian Gulf, Hogan's victory over Slaughter did not achieve a new order. Slaughter still roams free in the WWF, and his evil deeds are not exactly carried out under the cloak of darkness. They are carried out under the glaring lights of the WWF TV cameras.

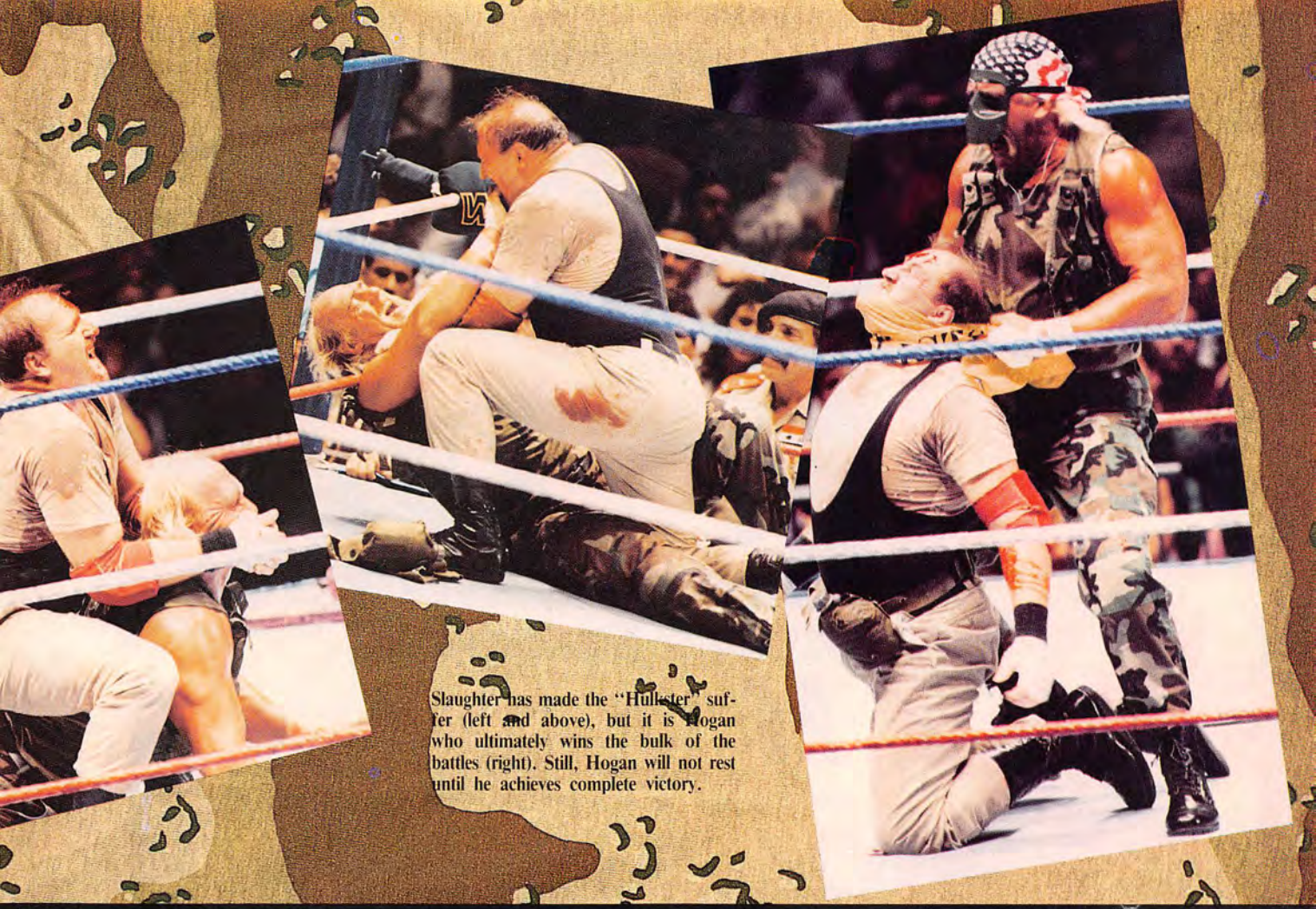
On a recent edition of *Prime-Time Wrestling,* Slaughter and his cohorts put one of Hogan's fans through a series of embarrassing chores. They called him a "Pukeamaniac" and scrubbed a toilet bowl with his head. The fan wore a Hulkamania T-shirt, and it was clear what Slaughter and his men had in mind: Through this fan, they were sending a message to Hogan.

The "Hulkster" is the WWF World champion. He has defeated Slaughter numerous times. But Slaughter still walks the WWF streets. Like Hussein (although on a far lesser level), his evil continues.

And yet, there is a difference. The United States has ended its war against Hussein. The victory celebration is over. The U.S. is ready to move on.

Hogan's victory celebration has not yet begun. He knows he cannot celebrate until Slaughter is destroyed. He will not stop until that happens.

At this point, Hogan should have moved on to



Slaughter has made the "Hulkster" suffer (left and above), but it is Hogan who ultimately wins the bulk of the battles (right). Still, Hogan will not rest until he achieves complete victory.

other challengers. Many are waiting, including Intercontinental champ Curt Hennig and The Undertaker. Instead, Hogan wrestles Slaughter night after night. Most times, Hogan pins Slaughter, but it's Slaughter's occasional victories over Hogan by disqualification that get the "Hulkster's" goat.

"Hogan wants *complete* victory," said a WWF insider. "In his mind, Slaughter's crimes are so heinous, so unforgivable, that only the complete destruction of Slaughter—either that, or Slaughter admitting his misdeeds—is acceptable. This war has taken on a mind of its own."

In the Persian Gulf war, the United States set conditions for Iraq's surrender. None of them entailed Hussein giving up the leadership of Iraq. He was allowed to remain in power.

Hogan's conditions for Slaughter's surrender are clear: They are unconditional. Slaughter must either leave the WWF or change his ways. He must beg for forgiveness.

Let's look at what Slaughter has done:

He has turned his back on the United States. He deserted the U.S. Marine Corps. He supported Iraq in the Gulf war. He won the WWF World title by breaking the rules, and threw fire in Hogan's face after losing it. He is also backed by Gen. Adnan, a powerful Iraqi with a dangerous mind; there are no limits to his horrible deeds.

Hogan has a history of carrying out his promises. He taught Andre the Giant a history lesson. He sent Randy Savage on a downward career spiral. But Hogan's goal with regard to Slaughter is a little more difficult, simply because Slaughter is so clearly a maniac.

The tanks are gone from Kuwait. The deserts are clear of gunfire. Iraq's greatest problems are internal. In many ways, the United States won the Persian Gulf war. In many ways, too, it was an incomplete victory. Nonetheless, the world is resting easier than it did last November. Hussein is still in Iraq, but his power has been neutralized.

In the WWF, Slaughter's insults and attacks continue. Hogan keeps fighting back. He is on his own, but he is backed by right.

One day, Hogan will carry out his intended mission. It might destroy him; it had better destroy Slaughter.

The Desert Storm rages on in the WWF. When the sand clears, only one man will be standing. It won't be Slaughter, you can bet on that. But how big a price will Hogan have to pay for his eventual victory? □

Spotlight

Since joining The York Foundation several months ago, Terrence Taylor (here against WCW TV champion Bobby Eaton) has wrestled with a renewed confidence.

TERRENCE TAYLOR

HE WAS THE 1980 "Rookie of the Year" and a promising scientific hopeful. He's been a brash, arrogant rulebreaker with a heart filled with hatred. He's even been a rooster, complete with a poultry-like pompadour and strut.

It's always been hard to figure out Terry Taylor, but at least he seems to have settled into a niche that suits him well. Clad in designer sportcoats and expensive leather shoes, Taylor now bills himself as **Terrence** *Taylor. He's also become the "computerized man of the '90s" thanks to the unique guidance of his manager, Alexandra York.*

As a charter member of The York Foundation, Taylor had banks of powerful computers determining his match strategies—and his bank accounts reaped the benefits. Taylor was undefeated for months, resulting in higher purses and a return to superstar status following his regrettable WWF stint as The Red Rooster.

However, it's becoming increasingly apparent that York's electronic scheme is not foolproof. When Taylor lost bouts to WCW TV champion Bobby Eaton and Dustin Rhodes, York knew it was time to devise some new programs.

Instead of abandoning her plan to dominate WCW, York enlisted aid for Taylor in the form of hulking bodyguard Mr. Hughes. Then York shocked the sport by bringing Rick Morton into the fold, and she even recruited veterans Dick Murdoch and Dick Slater to be the "collection agency" for her Foundation.

There is no predicting just what is ahead for The York Foundation. Hoping to get some insights into this unique organization, Editor-In-Chief Craig Peters and Associate Editors Eddie Ellner and Andy Rodriguez ventured to The York Foundation's Atlanta offices to speak with Taylor, who, as usual, was flanked by the unspeaking yet ominous Mr. Hughes.

EDDIE ELLNER: Terrence, this is some office you've got here. Gold-plated doorknobs, electronic security, your own personal gym, the works! And you wear your newfound success like one of your Christian Dior suits. I take back everything I ever said about you when you were The Red Rooster.

TERRENCE TAYLOR: **Why, thank you, Edward. I'm glad to see you're a man of taste, even if you *did* insult me in the past. As you can see, I'm a totally new man these days. Not only does The York Foundation have offices here, but we've purchased buildings in New York and Los Angeles, too. And, since Ms. York is giving me financial advice, I've got digs of my own in Florida and L.A. Like I've always said, my mediocre is better than everybody else's best.**

ANDY RODRIGUEZ: I'm glad you mentioned the word "mediocre" before *I* had the chance to say it. That's exactly what your record has been lately—utterly mediocre. What's the matter, Terry? Ghosts in the machine?

Every issue, reporters from PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED will participate in an incisive press conference with a top wrestling star. The questions will be demanding. And the answers will reveal the innermost thoughts of the giants of the sport.

TAYLOR: **Not funny, Rodriguez. Hey, you're putting me down for dropping a couple of fluke decisions. Did you guys even *see* the matches you're talking about?**

CRAIG PETERS: I think Bill Apter might've, but *I* didn't catch them.

TAYLOR: **That's your problem. You guys are so busy compiling cold statistics for that *PWI Weekly* rag that you've lost sight of the facts. When Bobby Eaton beat me, it was because he took our PC and whacked me over the head with it.**

ELLNER: That's no way to win a match!

TAYLOR: **Quite right, Edward. And the Rhodes situation was a complete and utter travesty of justice. During that match, Richard Morton . . .**

PETERS: *Richard* Morton?

TAYLOR: **I guess that's *Rick* Morton to you rubes. Anyway, Morton came down to ringside because Dusty Junior was whining and crying that Mr. Hughes was there. During that match, Morton took Ms. York's laptop and dropped it on the floor. Being the delicate instrument that it is, it stopped running, and my match strategy went out the window. It was *Morton's* fault I lost that match.**

ELLNER: And that brings us to an important question: How could York hire an aging, out-of-shape has-been such as Morton to join the Foundation—particularly after what he did to you in that match?

RODRIGUEZ: Eddie!

TAYLOR: **Calm down, Andrew, that's a fair question, even if Edward's description of Richard was a bit harsh. Sure, I had my share of flare-ups with Morton in the past. But Ms. York was**

(Continued on page 56)

"I'm a totally new man these days. And like I've always said, my mediocre is better than everyone else's best."

BARRY WINDHAM'S DUBIOUS HONOR:

Arn Anderson and Ric Flair always considered Windham a loyal member of The Four Horsemen.

HE IS THE ONLY MAN ALL RULEBREAKERS TRUST

By Dave Rosenbaum

Barry Windham doesn't have any titles and he doesn't have many fans. But he has plenty of friends—all rulebreakers—who would trust him with their last dime. There *is* honor among thieves!

THE DOORBELL RANG early one morning in Blackjack Mulligan's North Florida home. It was not too early for Mulligan to be awake, but it was too early for anyone but one of his sons to know that he wouldn't mind the intrusion.

Mulligan trudged down the stairs, wearing a pair of torn cut-off shorts and a white muscle T-shirt. His wrestling days are long behind him, but Mulligan has maintained the same all-purpose physique—bulky but not overly muscular—that served him so well during his long career.

"Who is it?" Mulligan growled.

"It's me, Dad," the voice returned. "Barry. I was in town and I figured I'd drop by. Didn't think you'd mind."

"I never mind," Mulligan said as he opened the door, gave his son a strong handshake, and patted him on the back. "Always room in my house for my flesh and blood."

Actually, it hasn't always been that way. There have been times when Mulligan had major disagreements with his sons, Barry and Kendall Windham. In 1982, for instance, Barry and his father had a shaky breakup. They finally reconciled in 1983, but didn't talk to each other for more than a year.

Since then, however, Mulligan has been merely a very interested observer, not a participant, in Barry's career. He has not always been happy with Barry's decisions, but he is happy now.

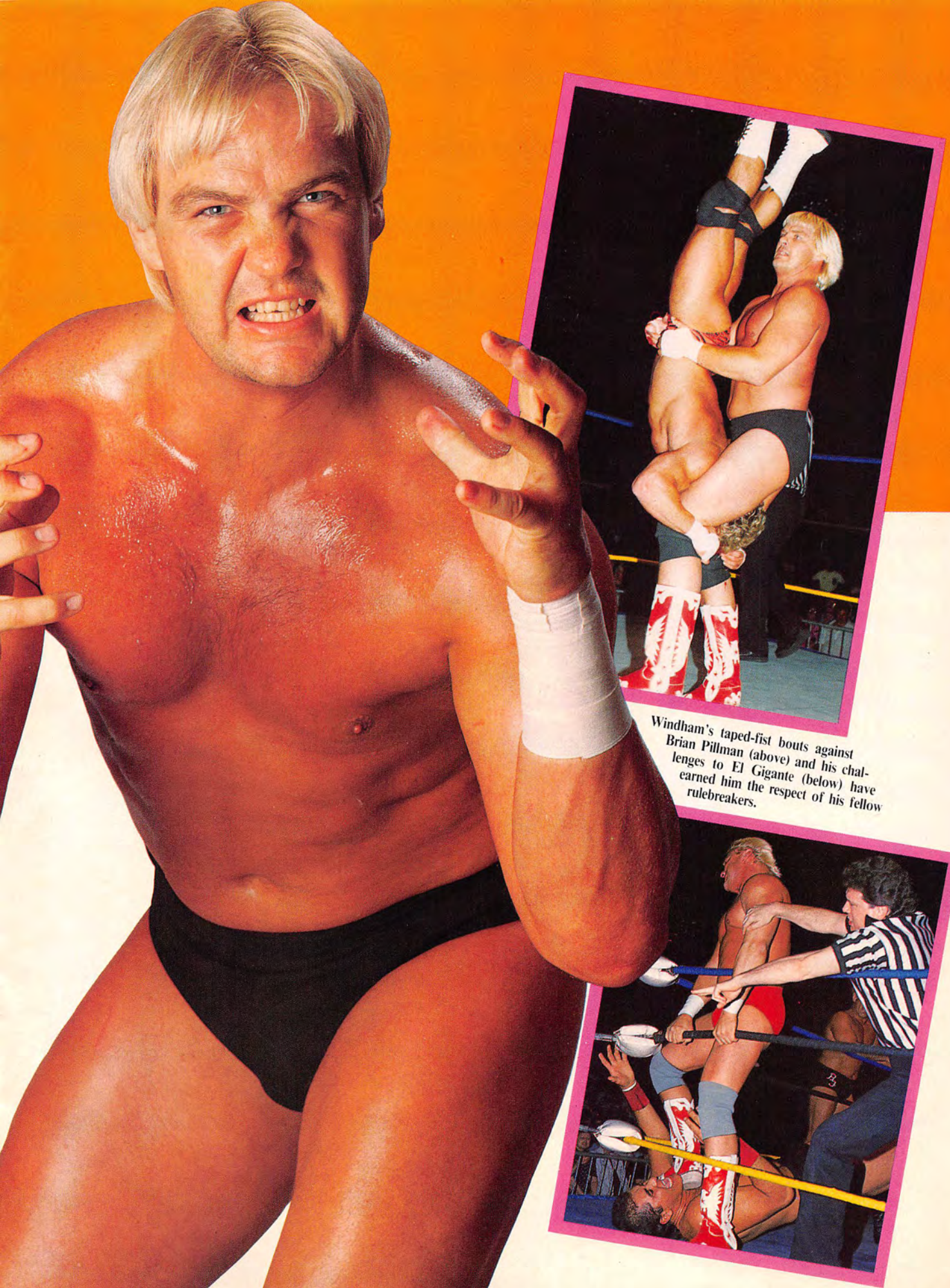
"I got company," Mulligan said, pointing to the reporter who sat in his living room. "But you're welcome to sit down. You know, boy, I've been very proud of you lately."

Such a compliment from his father would normally have a son beaming, but instead Barry just muttered "Thanks" and headed for the kitchen.

"I'm gonna get something to eat," Barry said. "You deal with the reporter guy."

"My boy's got a lot of confidence now," Mulligan said, turning back to

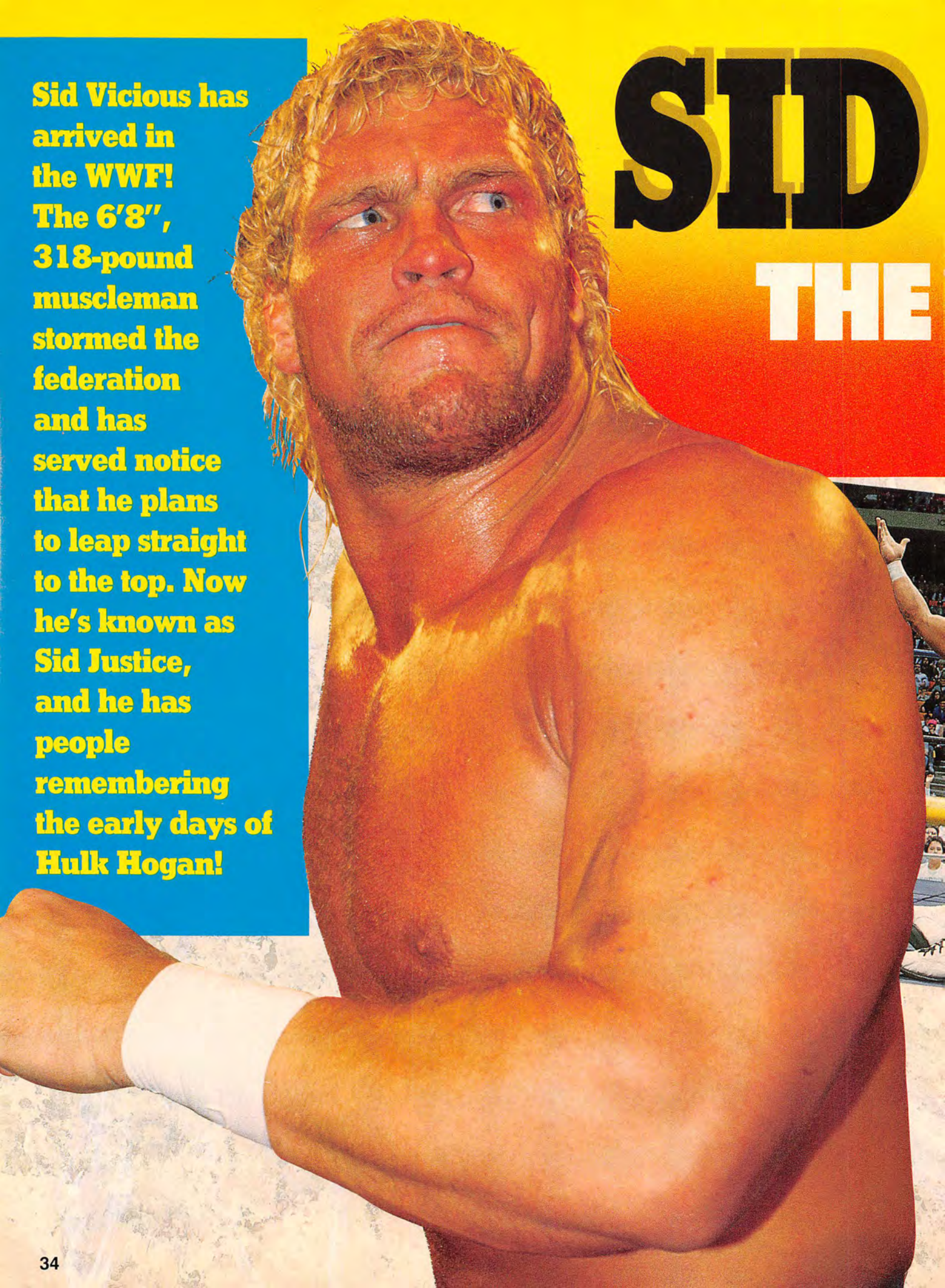
(Continued on page 52)



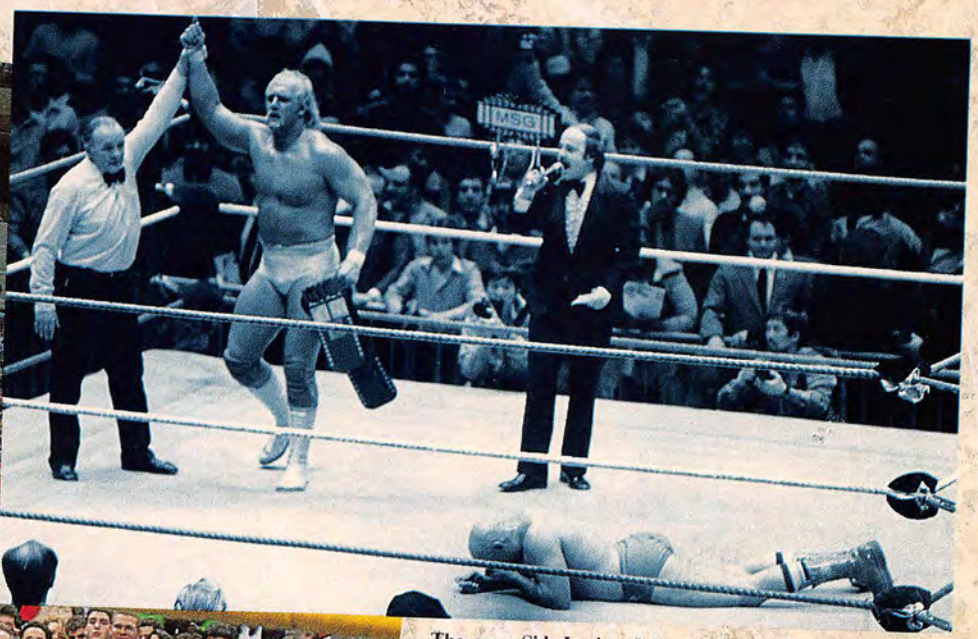
Windham's taped-fist bouts against Brian Pillman (above) and his challenges to El Gigante (below) have earned him the respect of his fellow rulebreakers.

SID THE

Sid Vicious has arrived in the WWF! The 6'8", 318-pound muscleman stormed the federation and has served notice that he plans to leap straight to the top. Now he's known as Sid Justice, and he has people remembering the early days of Hulk Hogan!



JUSTICE: SECOND COMING OF HULK HOGAN



The way Sid Justice (left) has stormed into the WWF reminds some people of the way Hulk Hogan entered the federation and quickly disposed of The Iron Sheik to win the WWF World title (above).

By Dave Rosenbaum

THE WRESTLING WORLD is so hungry for another Hulk Hogan that any young wrestler who is even close to the three-time WWF World champion in size or appearance is called the next Hulk Hogan.

It is a label many wrestlers have failed to live up to. And it has inspired the question, "Why does wrestling even need another Hogan? Isn't one enough?"

Well, ready or not, he's finally arrived, and he's in the WWF. Sid Vicious, always thought to have the physique and wrestling tools to equal Hogan's great accomplishments, both as a wrestler and as a public figure, has stormed the WWF!

He's no longer known as Sid Vicious. Now he's Sid Justice. And his incredible entrance into the federation has everyone remembering that day in January 1984, when Hogan stormed the Madison Square Garden ring and mauled The Iron Sheik for his first WWF World title.

Fast-forward to May 28, 1991, at the Convention Center in Tucson, Arizona. The Mountie, after another vic-

Justice combines power and agility in an awesome physical package. That has men like manager Jimmy Hart extremely worried, as Justice's first targets are members of his stable.

tory, was challenging any other wrestler to come into the ring and "taste his law."

Enter Justice. He slowly walked up the aisle toward the ring, rocked Mountie with a series of clotheslines, then lifted Mountie over his head and tossed him to the canvas. Mountie ran back to the dressing room and Justice soaked in the cheers.

Just like Hogan.

Justice did it again the following night at the State University Activity Center in Tempe, Arizona. This time, Earthquake made the challenge. Again, Justice stormed the ring, repelled several of Earthquake's punches, then bodyslammed the 462-pound Earthquake.

It was a miraculous feat, worthy of . . . Hulk Hogan.

And when Earthquake and manager Jimmy Hart ran back to the dressing room, Vicious stood in the ring and again received a standing ovation.

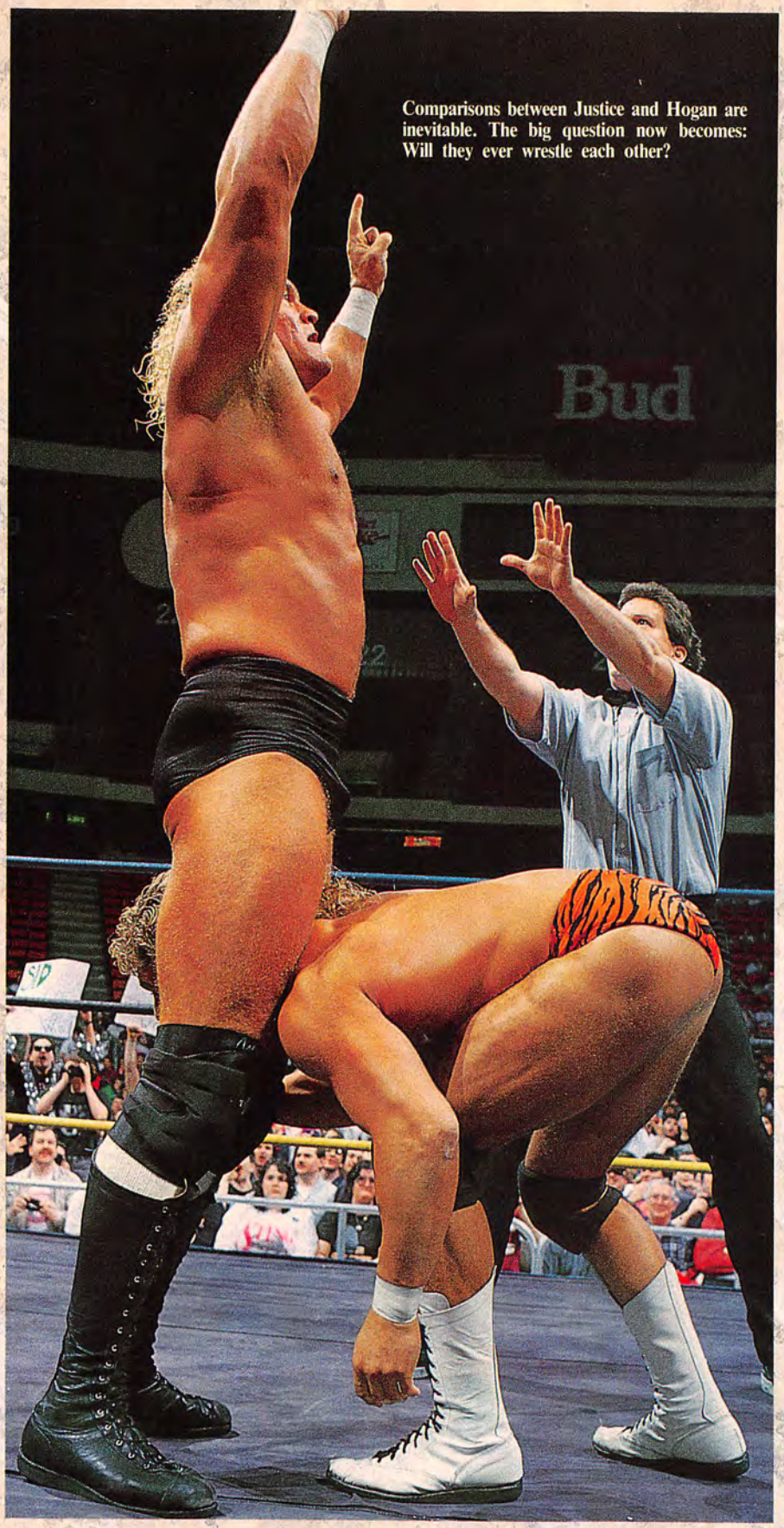
Just like . . . Hulk Hogan.

He has set his sights on the WWF's rulebreakers and he plans to start with Jimmy Hart's dangerous stable. The 6'8", 318-pound Justice has left behind his days in WCW with The Four Horsemen. Now he's out for justice, and a big piece of the WWF pie.

"It's an incredible change, but I think it's for real," said a WWF source. "Sid realized that he needed a drastically different career plan if he wanted to succeed. The old one just wasn't working. First of all, I think he might be finished with managers. Second of all, he's done with cliques, like the Horsemen. Finally, I'm not sure he wants to be a fan favorite as much as he wishes to emulate Hogan. You know, a lot of people want to look like Hogan, but the key is to *do* as Hogan. He's a very good example to follow."

According to WWF insiders, Hogan is pleased and at the same time concerned with Justice's arrival. He urges other wrestlers to fight the WWF's criminal element. Justice is doing that. But he realizes that Justice could one day challenge him for the WWF World title. It would be a serious challenge. Of course, there's nothing that says Justice won't return to his rulebreaking days.

Hogan, of all people, should know better. He was a rulebreaker years before his fan favorite days in the WWF. Fred Blassie was his manager. He



Comparisons between Justice and Hogan are inevitable. The big question now becomes: Will they ever wrestle each other?

heard the boos in the WWF and the AWA. In the early-'80s, he had a highly publicized feud with Andre the Giant, who at that time was one of the most beloved men in wrestling.

Hogan changed. So can Justice. Until he shows otherwise, Justice deserves the opportunity to prove that he is a new man.

There is no doubt that Justice has the ability to equal Hogan's accomplishments. He is as tall as Hogan. He is easily as muscular. He has a tremendous killer instinct.

More importantly, Justice knows how to use his size. When Hogan arrived in the WWF, he had weak overall wrestling skills. He relied completely on his size and power.

Justice, while showing a strong preference for brawling and mauling, has been schooled in the finer points of the sport. He spent time wrestling in Japan. He learned under Ric Flair. He has taken the time to supplement his God-given advantage with hard-earned skills.

"That might be the biggest difference between Hogan and Justice," said WWF expert Thomas Pilliard. "Hogan, until very recently, was a very primitive wrestler. He relied on quick attacks and quick victories. Justice is more well-rounded and, of course, he still has the great killer instincts. When all is said and done, years from now, we might be saying that Justice was far better than Hogan."

He has already made a tremendous impression. WWF rulebreakers are extremely concerned about Vicious. Hart is struggling mightily to keep his stable together. Mountie and Earthquake were shocked by Justice's blazing arrival. They don't want to endure the embarrassment again.

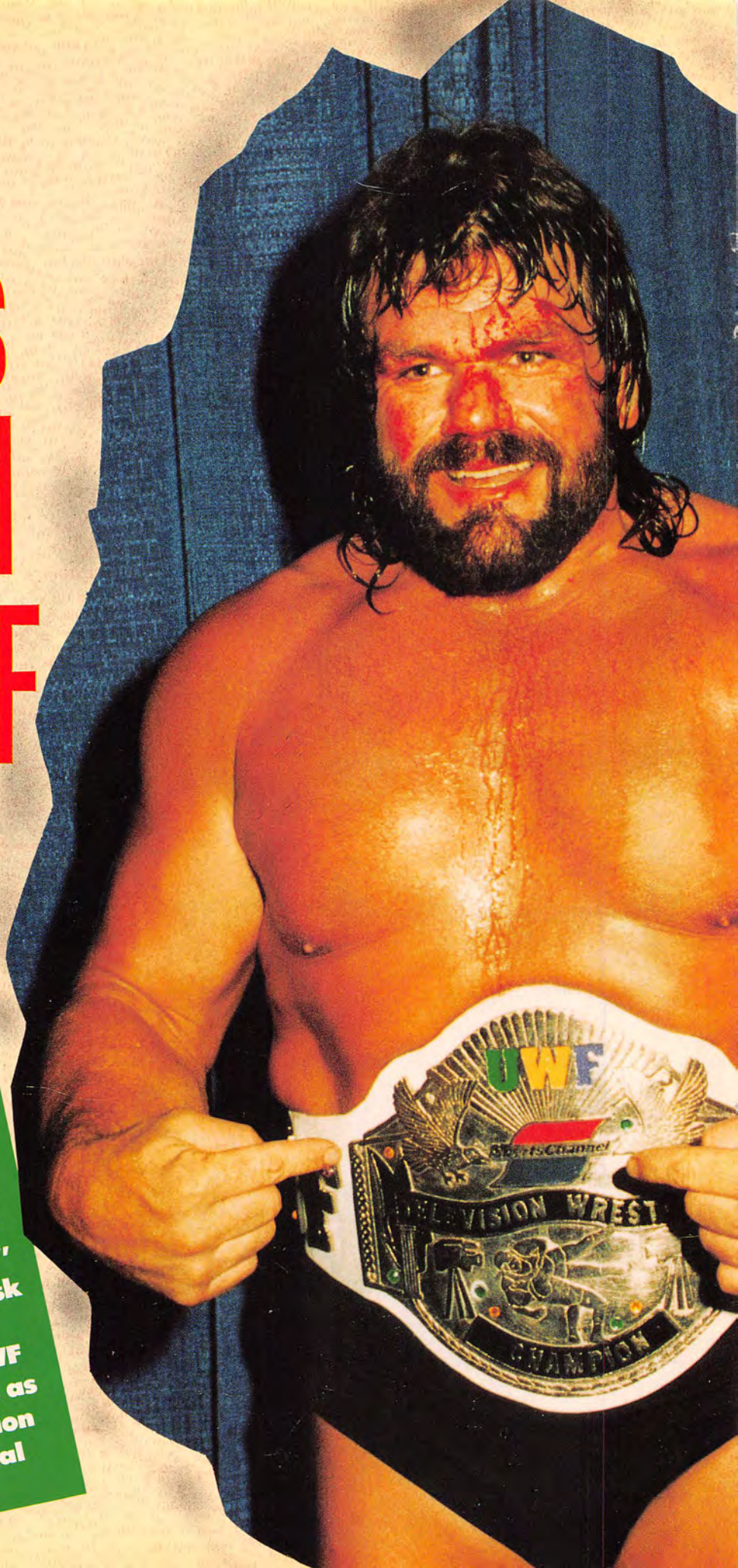
There may be no harnessing Justice's incredible power. He is out to make an immediate impact. During contract talks with the WWF, Justice reportedly demanded immediate title shots against Hogan or Intercontinental champ "Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig. He was refused and told he would have to work his way up the WWF ladder.

But Justice has no time for ladders. He is pulling the rungs off of this one, climbing as rapidly as possibly, three steps at a time.

The WWF's rulebreakers have already taken note. Hogan has noticed, too.

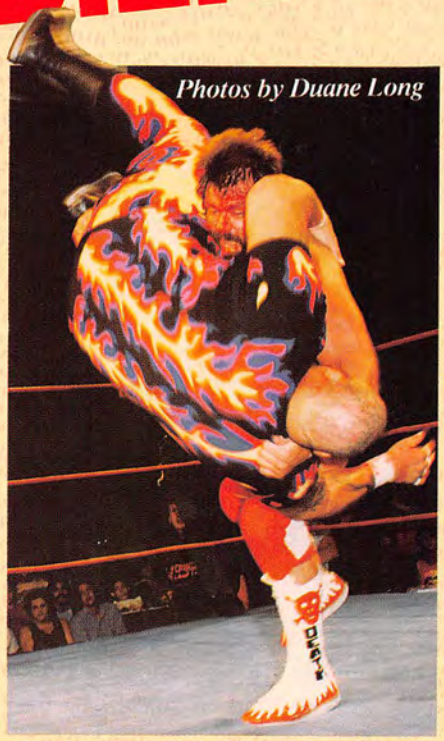
The second coming of Hulk Hogan has finally arrived and his name is Sid Justice. Really. □

Steve Williams Crowned First UWF Champ:



Steve "Dr. Death" Williams displayed awesome power by crushing Bam Bam Bigelow to become the first UWF TV champion. Now, the master of the "Oklahoma Stampede" has an even bigger task ahead of him— transforming the UWF from its present role as an upstart federation into a true national power!

CAN "DR. DEATH" MUSCLE THE NEW LEAGUE INTO RESPECTABILITY?



Photos by Duane Long

Steve Williams' convincing victory over big Bam Bam Bigelow might have been an easier task than gaining respect for the UWF.

By Bob Smith

BLOOD WAS POURING down Steve Williams' face, but the loss of plasma didn't seem to affect "Dr. Death" at all. The powerful Oklahoman was engaged in a ferocious battle with an equally bloody Bam Bam Bigelow in the tournament final to determine the first UWF/SportsChannel TV champion. Rugged and determined, Williams wasn't about to let a little cut get in his way. Little, that is, for a man who once had 108 stitches sewn above his right eye after an afternoon match and came back to wrestle that evening.

After six minutes of violent brawling, Williams was behind in the bout. The 368-pound Bigelow crushed Williams with a flying splash from the top turnbuckle, and it appeared that the end could be near. But Williams kicked out of the pin attempt. Bigelow followed up with a jarring DDT and his favorite finishing maneuver, a flying splash from over the top rope—but again, Williams was able to muscle out of Bigelow's pin attempt at the count of two.

Frustrated into a rage by his inability to pin Williams, Bigelow lunged at his foe, but "Dr. Death" caught the big man and blasted him with a belly-to-belly suplex. Moments later, Williams lifted the bulky Bigelow as if he were a 200-pounder, and delivered a crunching powerslam. Bigelow never even tried to kick out of the pin attempt, and Williams became the UWF's first champion in 8:43.

"This is my greatest moment in the U.S. since . . . well, since I won the

UWF title," laughed a still-bloody Williams, who captured the Oklahoma-based UWF belt in 1987. "It was a great match, and I've got to give Bigelow a ton of credit. Not many guys can match me blow-for-blow on my own terms, but he did. This was one of the toughest bouts I've had in years."

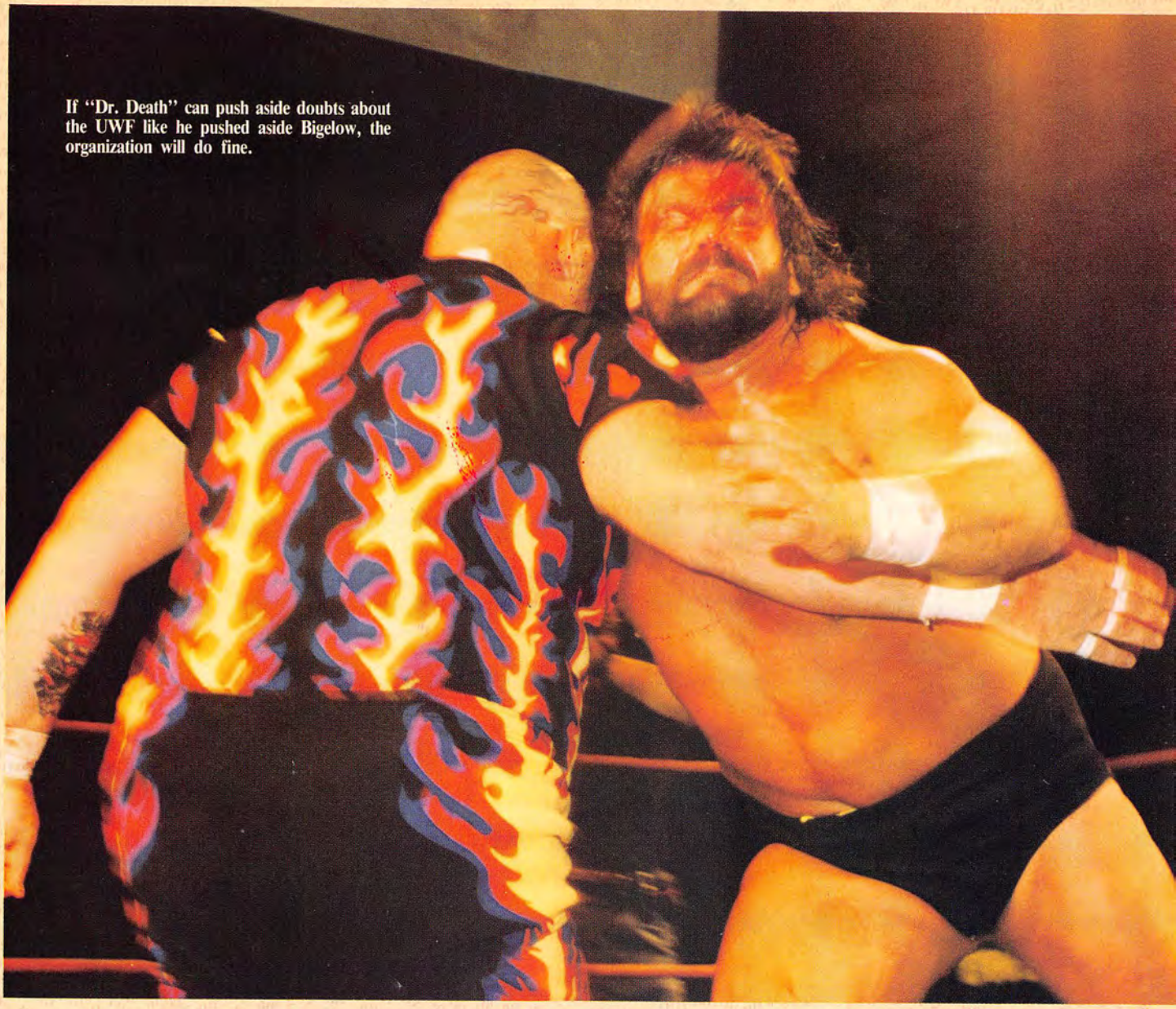
Even after such a titanic struggle, the hardest part of being UWF TV champion is yet to come for Williams. Since its formation in mid-1990, the new federation has made important strides in its goal to become a national promotion. A key ingredient in any federation is the quality of its wrestlers, and UWF President Herb Abrams believes that his roster of stars will lead the federation into prominence.

"I'll match our roster of stars with anyone's," said Abrams after Williams' title victory at Beach Brawl, the federation's ambitious initial foray into the pay-per-view world on June 9 in Palmetto, Florida. "What we're trying to bring the fans is hard, tough wrestling with no frills. We just put men in the ring and let them battle it out. It's a formula that's worked since the beginning of time, and I believe that's all most fans ever wanted to watch, anyway."

To Abrams' credit, the UWF does boast an impressive lineup of talent. Veterans such as Bigelow, Paul Orndorff, Don Muraco, and Terry Gordy are augmented by promising newcomers Cactus Jack, The Power Twins, Wet 'n' Wild, Tom Brandi, Chris Michaels, and Brian Donohue. Even Bob Backlund, who hadn't competed in more than two years, was impressed enough with the organization to come out of retirement to wrestle—and defeat—Ivan Koloff in a featured event at Beach Brawl.

However, the UWF continues to face problems that have ruined many other new federations before they had a chance to grow. The UWF's weekly television program, *UWF Fury Hour,* is broadcast on SportsChannel America, a national cable network that reaches fewer than 15-million homes. Since the UWF is not yet seen in syndication, many fans have yet to see the federation. Beach Brawl, which was intended to be nationally televised, was only available in limited markets. In addi-

Williams' manhandling of Bigelow (above and bottom) buttressed his claim of being the most powerful man in the sport.



If "Dr. Death" can push aside doubts about the UWF like he pushed aside Bigelow, the organization will do fine.

tion, the UWF has promoted in New York, California, and Florida thus far, but has not presented cards in other states.

"That will come with time," insists Abrams. "I've always said that any organization is only as strong as its champion. In Steve Williams, we've got the most powerful man in wrestling carrying the UWF banner. I believe it's to our advantage that Doc is such a world traveler. Now, fans and wrestlers all over the globe will know that Steve is the UWF TV champion, because he'll *definitely* let everybody know about it!"

Even though he's captured the UWF belt, Williams has admitted he does not intend to cut down on wrestling in Japan, where he is regarded as a legend by many fans. In fact, Williams believes his Oriental excursions will only help strengthen the UWF's image as a major organization.

"You better believe I'll bring this belt to Japan," said Williams after his title victory. "I've told everybody that I'll be a fighting champion, and that means I'll represent the UWF in the Orient. When I come back to the States, the title will be that much more valuable, because I'll have taken on the best of Japan—and then I'll take on the best here, too."

Never one to mince words, Williams has issued challenges to the champions of every other federation in the sport.

"I'll take on anybody, anywhere, anytime," barked Williams. "I don't care who it is or where the hell it is. I want Hulk Hogan, Ric Flair, Jerry Lawler, *everybody*. I want to be known as the greatest champion anywhere, and there's no doubt in my mind I can beat any champion of any league. Bring 'em all on—I'll crush 'em one by one!"

It's highly unlikely that the champions of other federations will answer Williams' confident challenge. However, it is quite possible that Williams' title tenure will bring new respectability to the UWF, just as it did to the old UWF four years ago.

"Just wait and see," boasted Williams. "In just a few months, *everybody* will be after this belt, and I'll be the most famous man in wrestling."

The UWF can only hope Williams can live up to his bold claim. □

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The *PWI* Dream Tag Team Tournament:

Round Two:

YOU DECIDE WHO WINS!

Last month, we presented round two of our "Dream Tournament." Now it's time for round two of our tag team competition—and for you to decide who will move into the semifinals!

THE FIRST ROUND of the 1991 *"Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Dream Tag Team Tournament" is history. As with the singles tournament, you responded with an enormous amount of mail. All your votes for the initial round of the tag team competition have been tallied, and we'll get to the match results and your comments in a moment.

HOW IT WORKS

For those coming into the tournament late, here's how it works. We've set up a tournament bracket containing 16 of the sport's top teams. There were eight first-round matches, and now there will be four quarterfinal bouts followed by two semifinals and a championship final. In each round you must decide who would win each hypothetical match (additional comments welcome!).

You determine the winners, we add up the votes, and the winners move on to the next round. It's that simple!

In this issue, we've listed the quarterfinal pairings. Simply circle the name of the wrestler you think would win each match, fill out the form, attach any additional comments you may have, and send it to: Dream Tag Team Tournament Quarterfinals; c/o *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571.

You must pick a winner of each match. The deadline for ballots is August 20, 1991. We'll print the quarterfinal results and semifinal pairings in the December 1991 issue of *PWI;* the final bout will be held in the February 1992 issue. Complete tournament results will be printed in the April 1992 issue.

Next month, we'll present the quarterfinal results and the semifinal pairings in the 1991 *"PWI* Dream Tournament," which runs on alternating months with the tag team tournament. Pick up a copy and get in on all the action of *both* tournaments!

The Power Twins (above left) were defeated by The Bushwhackers in a close first-round contest. The Rockers (above right, double-teaming Smash) beat another rock 'n' rolling team, The Freebirds.

FIRST-ROUND RESULTS

The Nasty Boys def. Power & Glory: "Even though they are both rulebreaking teams in the WWF, they do not seem to like each other," wrote Brian Pattigen of LeClaire, Iowa, who forecasts "an all-out war" that the Nastys would win in 9:36. Sixty-three percent of the voters agreed with Brian, sending Brian Knobs and Jerry Sags to the next round.

The Rockers def. The Freebirds: "The long-awaited confrontation between the self-proclaimed rockers and The Rockers becomes a confrontation between tag team knowhow and high-flying agility," says Brad Belote of Kingsport, Tennessee. Brad joined 68 percent of the respondents in sending Shawn Michaels and Marty Jannetty to a quarterfinal bout against the Nastys.

The Hart Foundation def. Kensuke Sasaki & Hiroshi Hase: "This is one of the best first-round matches," said Andrew Parlen of Agoura Hills, California. "Sasaki and Hase would probably give Bret Hart and Jim Neidhart the fight of their lives, but in the end the two-time former WWF World champs would pull it out." Eighty percent of those casting votes in the tournament agreed.

Lex Luger & Sting def. The Young Pistols: "For action, this match would rival Luger and Sting's battle with the Steiners at Super Brawl," said Patti Walker of Atlanta. "But I think that the experience and power of Sting and Luger would prove to be the decisive factors." And decisive was the operative word in this match as 90 percent of the votes went to the muscular fan favorites, who will battle The Hart Foundation in the quarterfinal round.

The Legion of Doom def. Eric Embry & Tom Prichard: "Are you kidding?" was the incredulous question of Mike Hicks of Boston. "Hawk and Animal would obliterate those wimps!" Indeed: The Legion of Doom scored an awe-inspiring 98 percent of the votes to cruise to an easy victory over Eric Embry and Tom Prichard.

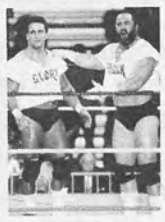
The Bushwhackers def. The Power Twins: This bout proved to be the closest of the first round. "People laugh at The Bushwhackers," wrote Jennifer Cole of London, England, "but they forget that they can also wrestle." Fifty-four percent agreed, and Luke Williams and Butch Miller will now have to contend with the power and might of Hawk and Animal in the semifinals.

Arn Anderson & Barry Windham def. Rick Morton & Dustin Rhodes: Another extremely one-sided bout. "Rick Morton and Dustin Rhodes are a team that's falling apart at the seams," wrote Ben Howard of Charlotte, North Carolina. "Anderson and Windham would blast through them like a hot knife through butter." Ninety percent of you agreed that the former Four Horsemen would surge to victory.

Rick & Scott Steiner def. The Southern Rockers: "There isn't a tag team in the tournament that can give the Steiners a match," wrote Jeff Hargrove of Dallas. The Southern Rockers certainly couldn't: Rick and Scott notched 99 percent of all votes cast! Perhaps Anderson and Windham will be able to give the Steiners a closer match in the semifinal round.

FAN BALLOT

THE NASTY BOYS


POWER & GLORY

THE FREEBIRDS

THE ROCKERS

KENSUKE SASAKI & HIROSHI HASE

THE HART FOUNDATION

LEX LUGER & STING

THE YOUNG PISTOLS

FIRST-ROUND WINNERS: THE NASTY BOYS | THE ROCKERS | THE HART FOUNDATION | LEX LUGER & STING

QUARTERFINAL WINNERS

QUARTERFINAL WINNERS

FIRST-ROUND WINNERS: THE LEGION OF DOOM | THE BUSHWHACKERS | ARN ANDERSON & BARRY WINDHAM | RICK & SCOTT STEINER

ERIC EMBRY & TOM PRICHARD

THE LEGION OF DOOM

THE POWER TWINS

THE BUSHWHACKERS

ARN ANDERSON & BARRY WINDHAM

RICK MORTON & DUSTIN RHODES

THE SOUTHERN ROCKERS

RICK & SCOTT STEINER

Mail ballot to:
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Rockville Centre, NY 11571

CIRCLE QUARTERFINAL WINNERS ONLY!

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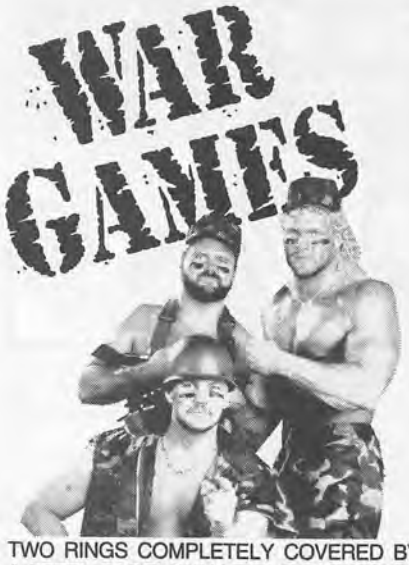
Additional comments welcome! The deadline for quarterfinal ballots is **August 20, 1991**. Quarterfinal results will be presented in the December 1991 issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated,* on sale October 1. Look for the *"PWI* Dream Tournament" quarterfinal results and semifinal pairings in next month's issue!



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(Continued from page 7)

bigger snake, Lucifer, to the ring. He better be careful before Lucifer meets the same fate as Damian! Earthquake didn't rid the world of Hulkamania last year, but now he's rid the world of Damian. Long live "Quakemania."

PAUL ESNER
Staten Island, NY

GOOD MOVE, SID

After losing to the still-green El Gigante at Super Brawl '91, Sid Vicious picked the perfect time to leave WCW. Before entering WCW, Vicious was very successful as Lord Humongous in the CWA and the CWF. When Vicious was in the USWA, Kerry Von Erich called him "the most awesome man I've ever wrestled."

Sid's lackluster career in WCW is unexplainable. He failed to defeat either Sting or Lex Luger in title matches. Yet Sid is still intimidating, powerful, and charismatic. His career is at a crossroads and I can't wait to see where his path leads.

RICHARD EVANS
Gulfport, MS

TOO FULL OF HOGAN

A "Career Closeup" of Hulk Hogan in your August '91 issue? Yawn. Every place I look, Hogan is getting more ink and more ink and more ink. Sure he's had a fantastic career—maybe the best ever—but enough already. There's more to wrestling than Hulk Hogan. I'd like to see some new faces get more play in your magazine. That's what keeps wrestling fresh.

ALEX WOLFE
Madison, WI

SLAMMING SLAUGHTER

Sgt. Slaughter is a dirty, lowdown, lazy, good-for-nothing. He looks like he was born in a sewer and he probably smells that way, too. Slaughter should not even be allowed to stand on American soil. I wish Hulk Hogan had finished him off when he had the chance.

I have a good idea: Hogan should challenge Slaughter to a stretcher match. Then after the "Hulkster" wins, Slaughter should be shipped to the North Pole in his underwear!

JOHN A. NICHOLAS
Frostproof, FL

IT'S BAD TO BE KING

Will Eric Embry, Eddie Gilbert, or *somebody* in the USWA beat Jerry Lawler already? I'm sick of that guy being on top.

MONICA AVERY
San Antonio, TX

USWA champ Jerry "The King" Lawler is the king of nothing, as far as readers Monica Avery and Ronnie Betts are concerned.

Jerry Lawler calls himself "The King." That's a joke. He'd be king of a bunch of wimpy worms, but that's about it.

RONNIE BETTS
Muscle Shoals, AL

WHO NEEDS ANIMATION?

More and more each day, the WWF gets like a cartoon series. When will it end? Will it ever end?

I'm a fan of good old-time wrestling. I like to see two men square off and battle it out, plain and simple. Now we have all these costumes and weird personas, it takes away from the wrestling itself. Maybe WWF President Jack Tunney will realize that great wrestling is enough of a lure for the fans. He doesn't need to dress up great competitors in wacky outfits.

VICTOR ANDERSON
Portland, ME

DEMOLISHED

I am writing about the article in your July '91 issue, "The Demolition of Demolition—The Collapse of a Tag Team Dynasty." I loved to watch the original Demolition team of Ax and Smash, and I can only wonder how they could have been stupid enough to bring in Crush. I agree with Ax that it was a very dumb move. When Crush came in, Demolition fell steadily down the WWF ladder.

My advice is: "Smash, get rid of Mr. Fuji and Crush and go back to wrestling with Ax." That's what the fans want and that would be the best move for your career.

STUART CLARK
Gretna, Scotland

SWEET STING

That Sting just keeps getting better looking every time I see him on TV. If he's looking for a wife, tell him to call me!

MAUREEN REHNBACK
Allentown, PA □

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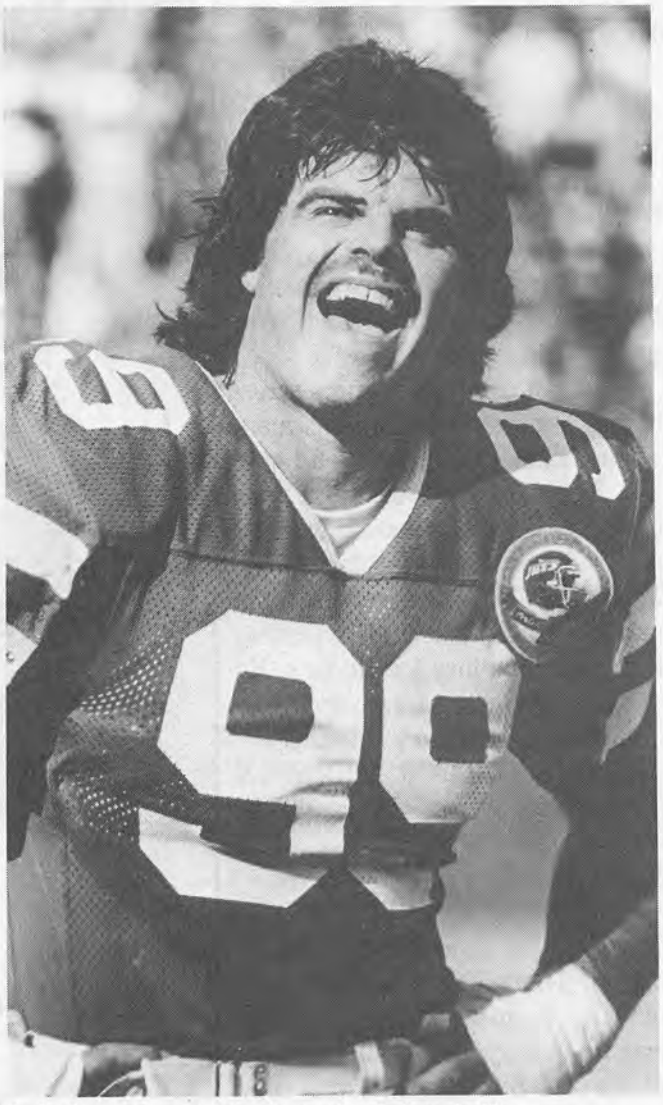
(Continued from page 10)



Derrick Dukes (above left), who became embroiled in a major boxing controversy when he was knocked out in 12 seconds by former New York Jet Mark Gastineau (above right), says the wrestling ring is where he *really* belongs.

and that will probably be the end of it," said Beavers, whose personal feeling and that of referee Al Rothenberg was that the knockout was legitimate.

"If anyone was going to take a dive," Beavers told the Associated Press, "why would they be stupid enough to tell a reporter?"

My question is, why would a wrestler be stupid enough to box in the first place? True, Dukes won two out of his first three pro bouts (beating Nelson Ross and Tony Freeman in less than a round each), but his third fight, a fourth-round TKO loss to John Sargent, should have told him all he needed to know about moonlighting as a pugilist.

There is absolutely no correlation between the two sports. A guy like Dukes might think he has a power in his fists because he's put down some of his wrestling opponents with them. But pad those fists with 12-ounce gloves and the result might be different. Or, in Dukes' case, he might not even get a chance to throw a punch.

Gastineau, despite his lack of in-ring experience, has been training over a year with respected New York trainer Jimmy Glenn. In the meantime, Dukes has been plying his trade in wrestling rings around the nation.

And that's where he should remain. Dukes is a pretty darn good wrestler. A five-year veteran who trained under Brad Rheingans and Eddie Sharkey, Dukes is a well-built 6'2", 244-pounder with exceptional aerial ability. Having suffered with asthma until his early-teens, Dukes got a late start in sports, but eventually became a high school basketball star in Ohio who had considered a basketball offer from Columbus Tech before settling on a pro wrestling career.

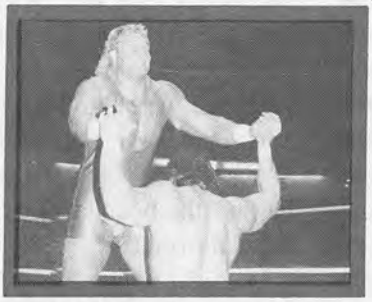
His wrestling career might not be going as well as he'd like, but at least now he knows that that's the only thing he wants to do.

"I'm not going to fight again," he said. "Too much heat."

Good choice, Derrick. □

THIS MONTH IN...

Inside Wrestling



SID VICIOUS is in the WWF—and believe it or not, **HULK HOGAN** is in the biggest trouble of his life!

Warning to WCW: **THE DIAMOND EXCHANGE** is the second coming of **THE FOUR HORSEMEN**!

PLUS . . .

MISSY HYATT is interviewed: "I'm more of a man than **PAUL E. DANGEROUSLY** will ever be!" . . . Battle royal scandal! The WWF's perfect scheme to protect **CURT HENNIG** . . . **RICK MORTON** and **ROBERT GIBSON** square off "One On One" . . . **STEVE RAY** throws himself to the lions! . . . **RICK RUDE** is back and declares: "If you're a manager, keep the hell away!"

All this—and much more . . .
in the September 1991 issue of
Inside Wrestling

STILL ON SALE!

The Wrestler

THE STEINERS take on **STING** & **LEX LUGER**: Find out how their friendships survived the most brutal match of the year

Learn why **THE LEGION OF DOOM** is a WWF disappointment

PLUS . . .

Why would fans cheer **THE UNDERTAKER**? . . . **EDDIE GILBERT'S** sadistic vow: "If I can't beat **CACTUS JACK**, I'll bleed him dry!" . . . The pride of a champion: Finally—**BOBBY EATON** makes it on his own! . . . "Q & A" interview with **SID VICIOUS** . . . "Spotlight" on **STEVE "GATOR" KEIRN**

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OFF THE TOP ROPE

(Continued from page 18)

thought I'd live to see the day when *PWI* would spank a Rock 'n' Roll Express member in public. Wrestler of the Year must go to Sgt. Slaughter for the brilliant orchestration of his comeback. The Sarge still can't wrestle worth a lick, but he managed to parlay a fast tongue and some outside interference into a World title and a multi-million-dollar payday. Though everyone thinks the Steiners vs. Luger and Sting tag team match was the greatest thing since no-spill coffee cups, my choice for Match of the Year remains Earthquake vs. Damian.

Dear Eddie,

How much longer can Hulk Hogan and Ric Flair remain champions of their federations? I see Hogan losing interest in the sport pretty soon and I can't imagine Flair holding his title much longer. Your thoughts?

GILBERT PAPAZIAN
Burlingame, CA

Dear Gilbert,

I agree on both counts. The problem is that experts and fans have been counting down the final days of each champion for years now. By this time, Hogan was supposed to have been Hollywood's next leading man, while Flair should've been serenading Polynesian beauties on a full-time basis from his own private island. The problem: Both men love to wrestle. The thrill of competition remains vividly alive in both their bloodstreams. The money helps—there is more of it now than there ever was—but both men have enough to last four lifetimes. What they need is the live action, the crowds, the noise; there is nothing in Hollywood or Tahiti to match the excitement of a championship wrestling match. They won't last forever, that much we know. But the fact that they have far outlasted everyone's expectations is tribute to their phenomenal survival skills.

Dear Eddie,

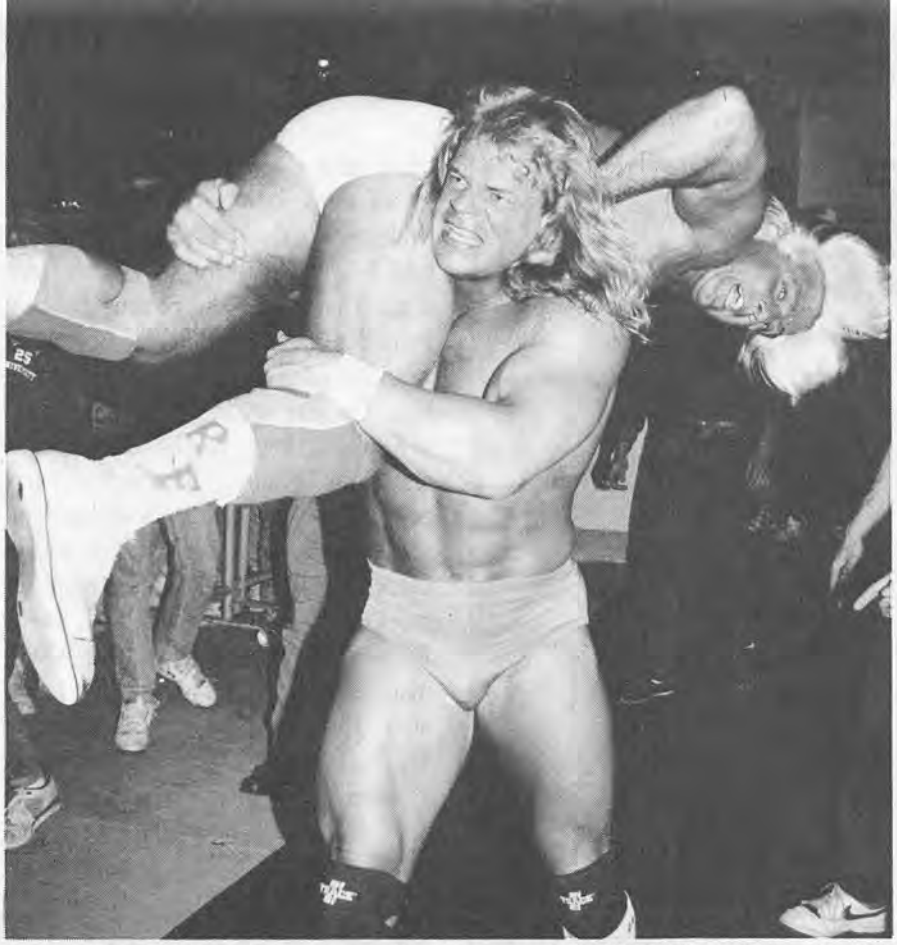
Have there ever been criminal charges filed in situations where wrestlers attack each other out of the ring? Like the time The Undertaker locked Ultimate Warrior in the coffin, or years ago, when Roddy Piper smashed a coconut over the head of Jimmy Snuka? Aren't these acts considered beyond the boundaries of normal pro wrestling combat?

NEIL STEINMAN
Athens, GA

Dear Neil,

As long as the grapplers direct their violence toward each other, I doubt they are legally responsible for the injuries they cause. To file charges requires a criminal complaint by the person attacked. To a man, wrestlers prefer the satisfaction of personal revenge over a drawn-out court battle. Can you see it: The State of New York and Barry Windham vs. "Flyin' " Brian Pillman. I don't think so. Let the animals mete out their own justice between the ropes, and save our overwrought court system the indignity of cross-examining Abdullah the Butcher. Locking the Warrior in a coffin may

Even in this condition, Jimmy Snuka didn't want his revenge in the courtroom; he wanted it in the ring.



Lex Luger has had plenty—too many, actually—chances to win the WCW World title from Ric Flair. How many more can he lose before he snaps?

appear to violate his basic human rights; it has yet to be proven that Ultimate is human. But stay tuned, we're getting news updates every day.

Dear Eddie,

You contemptible son of a sow. Lay off Lex Luger or die. He is the greatest wrestler in the world and it is just a matter of time before he wears the great gold strap. I'd like to see you do better.

TIM GACKETT
Chicago

Dear Tim,

I'm sure I could lose all 150 title shots I got also. I think you're right, though, Tim. Should Luger continue to lose title matches at his prodigious pace, he will become so frustrated, he will, in a moment of fury, murder Ric Flair. "To be the man, you have to kill the man," he will scream on the witness stand. Then, finally, he will get to wear the great gold strap: the one that ties him to the electric chair right before they pull the switch. □

THE 60 WEAR-DOWN HOLDS		THE 30 SET-UP HOLDS
1. AIRPLANE SPIN	31. HAIR PULLING	61. ABDOMINAL STRETCH
2. ARMBAR	32. HAMMERLOCK	62. ATOMIC DROP
3. ARMLOCK	33. HEAD BUTT	63. AVALANCHE
4. ARM STRETCH	34. HEAD LOCK	64. BACKBREAKER
5. ARM WHIP	35. HEAD STOMP	65. BACKROLL PRESS
6. BEAR HUG	36. HEART PUNCH	66. BELLY TO BELLY
7. BITING	37. HIP ROLL	67. BIG SPLASH
8. BODY SLAM	38. IRISH WHIP	68. BOSTON CRAB
9. BODY TACKLE	39. KARATE CHOP	69. BRAIN BUSTER
10. BOOT BLOCK	40. KARATE KICK	70. BULLDOG
11. CHICKEN WING	41. KNEE DROP	71. CAMEL CLUTCH
12. CHOKE	42. LEGLOCK	72. COBRA CLUTCH
13. CLAW	43. MANAGER INTERFERENCE	73. CRADLE
14. CLOTHESLINE	44. MONKEY FLIP	74. CRUCIFIX
15. CROSS BODY BLOCK	45. OVERHEAD TOSS	75. D.D.T.
16. DROP KICK	46. POLE RAM	76. FIGURE FOUR
17. EAGLE SPLIT	47. REVERSE CHINLOCK	77. FLYING LEG DROP
18. ELBOW SMASH	48. ROLLING SCISSORS	78. GOURD BUSTER
19. EYE GOUGE	49. ROPE BURN	79. INDIAN DEATH LOCK
20. FACE RAKE	50. ROPE TANGLE	80. NECKBREAKER
21. FIREMAN'S CARRY RAM	51. SCISSORS GRIP	81. PILEDRIVER
22. FLYING CLOTHESLINE	52. SHOULDER BREAKER	82. POWER SLAM
23. FLYING DROP KICK	53. SLINGSHOT	83. RUSSIAN SICKLE
24. FLYING ELBOW DROP	54. SNAP MARE	84. SLEEPER
25. FLYING MARE	55. STEP-OVER TOE HOLD	85. SLINGSHOT SUPLEX
26. FOREARM SMASH	56. SUPLEX	86. SMALL PACKAGE
27. FOREIGN OBJECT	57. SURFBOARD	87. SPINE BUSTER
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WEAR DOWN HOLDS: choose TEN from #1-60 above. List them below IN ORDER. Use each only ONCE.

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6:_____ 7:_____ 8:_____ 9:_____ 10:_____

SET-UP HOLDS: choose FIVE from #61-90 above. List them below IN ORDER. Use each only ONCE.

11:_____ 12:_____ 13:_____ 14:_____ 15:_____

FINISHING HOLD: create "custom" final maneuver or choose a hold from the list of 90 above. Limit the length to 20 letters and spaces.

My finishing hold: _____

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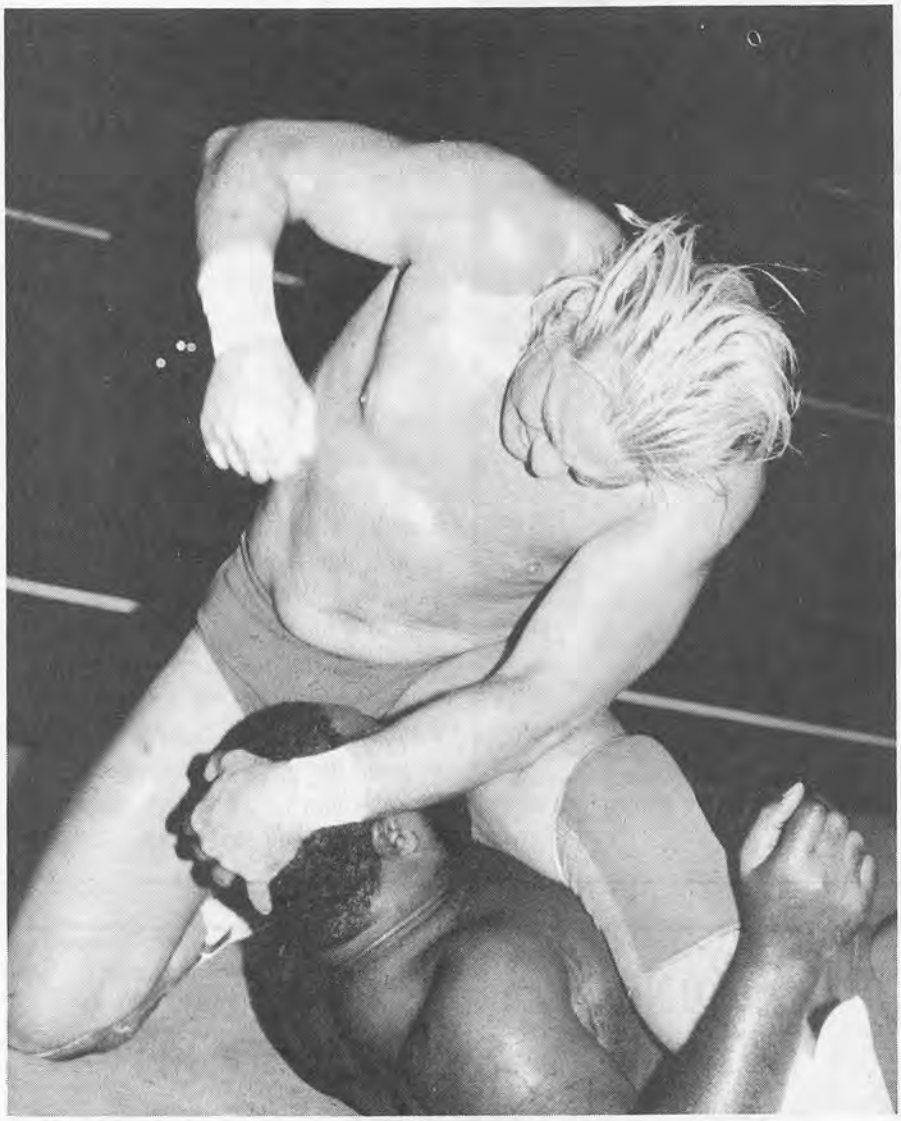
BARRY WINDHAM

(Continued from page 33)



Junkyard Dog is pounded by Windham, who has won several titles—and turned against a lot of fan favorites—in WCW.

the reporter. "That comes when you know what you want and you go for it. He's found himself. I don't think we're gonna see many changes out of him."

Mulligan then reached over to a bookshelf and pulled out a scrapbook. It was bulging with clipping and photos, many of them dog-eared and yellow.

"I keep these on all my boys, but there's a lot more on Barry," Mulligan said, sounding very much like the proud father. "You graph his career and you'll see lots of ups and downs, lots of changes, but about three years ago, right in the middle of 1988, right here, in fact, it all stops. Then he's just a one-way street."

Mulligan stopped on a page showing newspaper accounts of Windham's mid-1988 attack on his partner, Lex Luger. It was surely nothing to be proud of. Luger and Windham were defending their WCW World tag team belts against Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson. To become a member of The Four Horsemen, Windham not only gave up his friendship with Luger, he gave up the title.

"That had to be a tough decision for my boy, but he made it," Mulligan said. "You know, I was always the type of wrestler that was willing to take three or four good shots just to get one in. I didn't care. Barry did that all his life, too, but this time he decided to take a few steps back to take a lot of steps forward. It wasn't like a Mulligan to do that, but I've always said I wanted Barry to be his own man. That's when he became his own man. He did something his pop never would've done. Lose the friendship, sure, but give up the belts? No way!"

Mulligan kept paging through the scrapbook. Later that year, Barry adopted the clawhold, his father's favorite move, and augmented it with a black glove. He beat Nikita Koloff for the U.S. title and feuded with Dusty Rhodes. He moved on to the WWF, made a name for himself in that federation, then finally decided to return to WCW, where he rejoined the Horsemen.

With the Horsemen, he gave up everything for the good of the group. He

Windham's latest "accomplishment" was forcing Pillman to leave WCW when he pinned him in a tag team bout at Clash of the Champions XV.

was the prop in the famous "impostor Sting" incident, in which Sid Vicious pinned Windham, who was made up to look like Sting.

Finally, when the Horsemen disbanded in February, Windham didn't change. He is still friends with Ric Flair and Ole Anderson. He is now feuding with Sting.

"At this point, I think everyone's realized that Barry's not gonna change," Mulligan said. "This is Barry, this is what you get, and that's why when he walks into a room, he commands respect. The fans might not like him, but to hell with the fans. They never did nothing for nobody. Barry helps himself and he helps his friends."

And his friends are all rulebreakers. You'll never find Windham in the same bar with a fan favorite.

"Being in the same ring with those bums gives me the creeps," Windham yelled out from the kitchen. "They've sold out. I don't sell out."

"Yeah," Mulligan said, "but there was a time when he did. There was a time when he didn't do things for himself, he did things for the fans, or for his friends, or for me, which is never what I wanted him to do. I always wanted him to be his own man, and now he is."

Windham walked out of the kitchen carrying a plateful of pancakes with maple syrup and a glass of orange juice. He sat down on the couch and put an arm around his father's shoulder.

"You ask anybody in WCW what I'm all about, and they'll all tell you," Windham said. "There's nothing hidden about me. I just do what I have to do. My friends know they can trust me. They know I'll never turn my backs on them. Some wrestlers change like the wind, but Barry Windham is Barry Windham."

He is not a good man. He is a bad man. He has turned his back on the rules of the sport, but he has not turned his back on his friends. And his friends are all rulebreakers.

It is a dubious distinction, but Windham is probably the only man all rulebreakers trust. □

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WIN, LOSE, OR DRAW

(Continued from page 12)

He's doing it because he wants to show everybody how much he's changed. It's sad, really."

The relationship between Gibson and his former partner can go in several directions. They can ignore each other. They can feud. Or they can get back together again. Gibson explored each possibility.

"Well, I'm coming back to WCW, and that's where he is, so it would be kind of hard for us to ignore each other," Gibson offered with a laugh. "Seriously, after all we've been through over the years, I don't think we can go off on two paths that don't ever cross. WCW's a big federation, but it's not *that* big.

"I hope we don't feud. We did have a match against each other in Memphis back in '88, you know, but that whole situation resolved itself pretty quickly. Rick would have to do something very nasty to get me to go up against him. Jumping me from behind during a match, for example. Not only that, but I would have to be convinced that it was all over for us as a team. I'm not, yet."

Rick Morton and Robert Gibson have opposed each other in the ring before (above), and might do so again, especially since Morton has joined Terrence Taylor (bottom left) in The York Foundation.

So, is a reconciliation the most likely possibility?

"Whoa, I didn't say that!" Gibson cautioned. "We've only spoken once since his turn, and that was only because you guys asked us to ("One On One," *Inside Wrestling,* September 1991). I tried to remind him all we've done together, but he didn't care about any of that. He told me that was all in the past and that he was trying to make a better future for himself. Of course, I don't know how much better he can do than four World tag team titles, but that's what he believes.

"But I would like to talk to him again. I've called his house, but all I get is his machine. And do you know what he has on it? He says, 'This is Richard Morton. Please leave your message after the tone. Except if you're Robert Gibson. Then you can buzz off!' Is that incredible or what?"

Gibson was still shaking his head in disbelief when the check for lunch arrived moments later. As he made his way toward the door, a girl of about seven thrust a pen and a paper placemat at him and asked for his autograph.

"Where's Ricky, Robert?" she asked innocently.

"Uh, he couldn't make it today, sweetie," Gibson answered, signing his name.

"Why?" she wanted to know.

"Honey, you take care now," Gibson said as he handed her back the pen and paper. "I have to go."

It's a tough time for Robert Gibson. □

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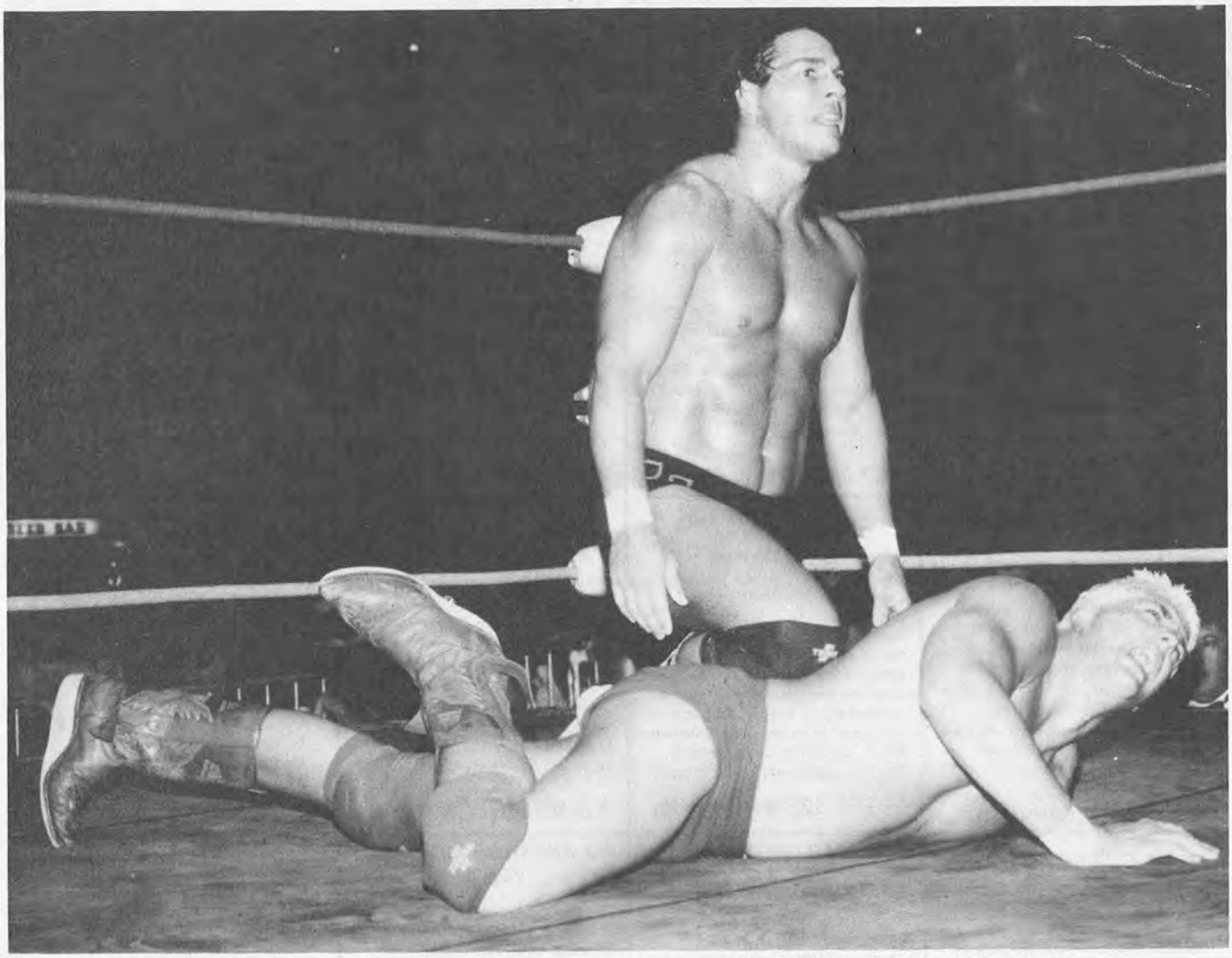
(Continued from page 31)



Taylor insists that Dustin Rhodes was stupid for passing up the opportunity to join The York Foundation. He says Dustin should have thought more like Richard Morton.

impressed with Morton's willingness to stand up to a big bruiser like Mr. Hughes here. About a week after that, York offered him a contract. For some reason, Richard didn't sign it right away ...

PETERS: He was probably giving his conscience an opportunity to kick into gear. Obviously, it never did.

TAYLOR: **What does he have to feel sorry about? Richard now has the opportunity to become as rich as I am. All he has to do is follow the game plan that Alex lays down for him, and the rest will be cake.**

RODRIGUEZ: Perhaps. But now Rick has sold his soul for a quick buck and abandoned all his fans—just like *you* did.

TAYLOR: Oooh, **the poor fans! Little kids and old ladies cryin' the blues because I won't sign autographs anymore. Big hairy deal! Hey, I've tried the scientific route, and it stinks. About a year ago, I decided to let my skill do the talking for me, and it was the worst decision I ever made. I was fighting and winning purely scientifically, but the title shots were being given to the wrestlers who have managers. Hey, I have a family. There are mouths to feed, and I want them to have nothing but the best.**

PETERS: They may be financially better off, but how can they be proud of you now? When they watch you wrestle, they're just seeing a stooge who does whatever he's told—and one who will use any tactic imaginable to win his bouts. It *has* to embarrass them.

TAYLOR: **Well, *harrumph!* Get with the real world, Peters. My family couldn't be happier. A loser like you could never comprehend what The York Foundation is all about, anyway. Look at the facts. I've tripled my income in six months. I'm a top contender to the U.S. and TV titles. I've got a great new partner in Richard Morton, and some fine new associates in Richard Murdoch and Richard Slater. And the capper of 'em all will be coming soon.**

ELLNER: C'mon, Terrence, you can tell me. These other two buffoons probably aren't interested, but I'm dying to know what you're talking about.

TAYLOR: **Ellner, I like you better every**

The "computerized man of the '90s" takes Alexandra York's advice very seriously, saying he would be much poorer without it. Some of Taylor's former friends say he's become poorer in other ways.

minute. It's just that Ms. York is about to take the harness off Mr. Hughes over here. That's 308 pounds of solid man you're looking at, and he's more than capable of tearing up Lex Luger or Sting. Get the idea? I'm going to beat that overrated Eaton—payback is *hell*—and win the WCW TV title. Murdoch and Slater are going to capture the World tag belts from those insufferable Steiners. Hughes is going to rip Luger in half for the U.S. belt. The Foundation will have big fun in '91. I'm going to be even richer than I am now.

PETERS: That's funny. You never mentioned Ric Flair's WCW World title.

TAYLOR: ***(pauses)*** **No comment.**

RODRIGUEZ: Don't you want to become World champion? Just a couple of months ago, you said that was your biggest goal.

TAYLOR: **I don't want to talk about Ric Flair right now. I don't want to talk about Arn Anderson or Barry Windham, either. These are true gentlemen who have supported the Foundation. Let's change the subject.**

RODRIGUEZ: But Flair ...

TAYLOR: ***(screaming)*** **I *said* let's change the subject! Are you dense or what?**

EDDIE: Sorry about that, Terrence. Andy couldn't take a hint if it sat on him. Let's get back to the interview. I've never seen you wrestle better than you have during the past couple of months. I think out of all the WCW wrestlers, you have the finest stamina and conditioning.

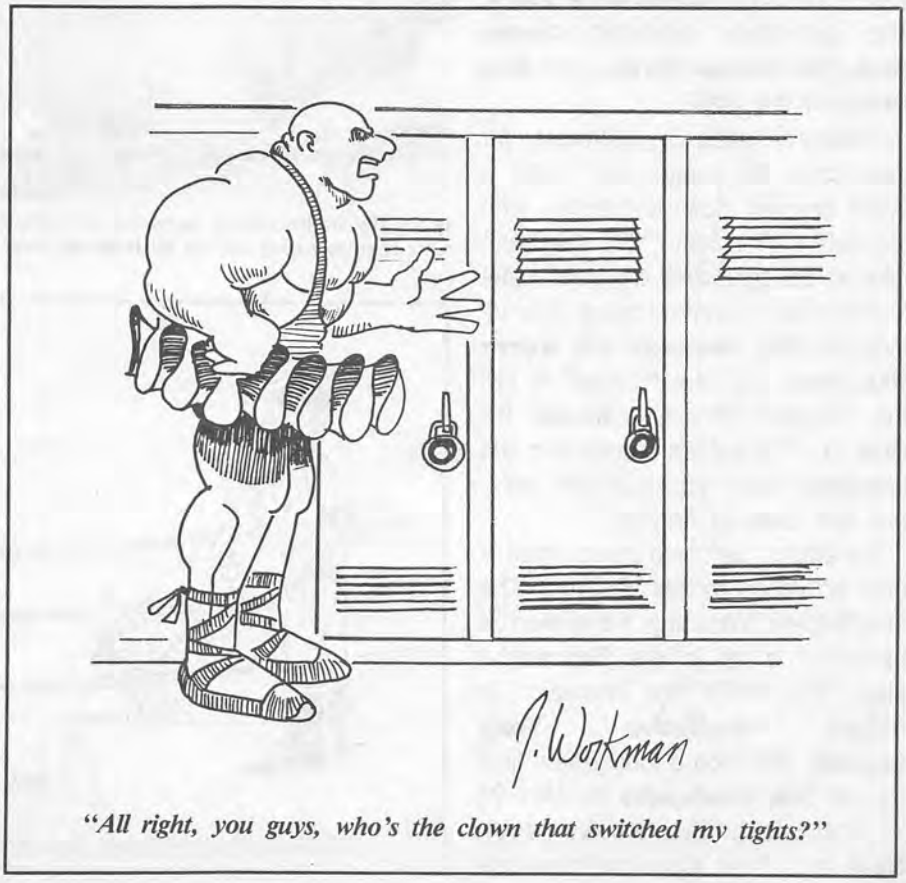
TAYLOR: **Edward, you shine like gold among this rabble. Ms. York has convinced me that conditioning is the key. She's definitely a trend-setter. Some managers go for the big muscleheads, but York looks for men with *brains.* Nobody can accuse me or Morton—or Slater or Murdoch, for that matter—of looking like Lex Luger. But we all can *outwrestle* Luger. Add to that our gray-matter superiority, and we're all set. We've got the brains, the skill, and the financial backing to dominate WCW. Wait'll you see what we have in store.**

PETERS: I can't wait. Terrence, we thank you for this interview ...

TAYLOR: **Wait a second. Edward, how would you like to accompany myself and Mr. Hughes here to one of Atlanta's finest restaurants—my treat, of course?**

ELLNER: Don't mind if I do! But what about Craig and Andy?

TAYLOR: **Who cares about them? See you at Jack In The Box, boys!** □



"All right, you guys, who's the clown that switched my tights?"

(Continued from page 8)

girlfriend, **Missy Hyatt**, as "used merchandise." When a disgusted Hervey turned to walk away, Dangerously smashed his portable telephone on the back of Hervey's head. As Hervey rolled on the mat in a semi-conscious state, Hyatt ran to the ring and chased Dangerously back to the dressing room.

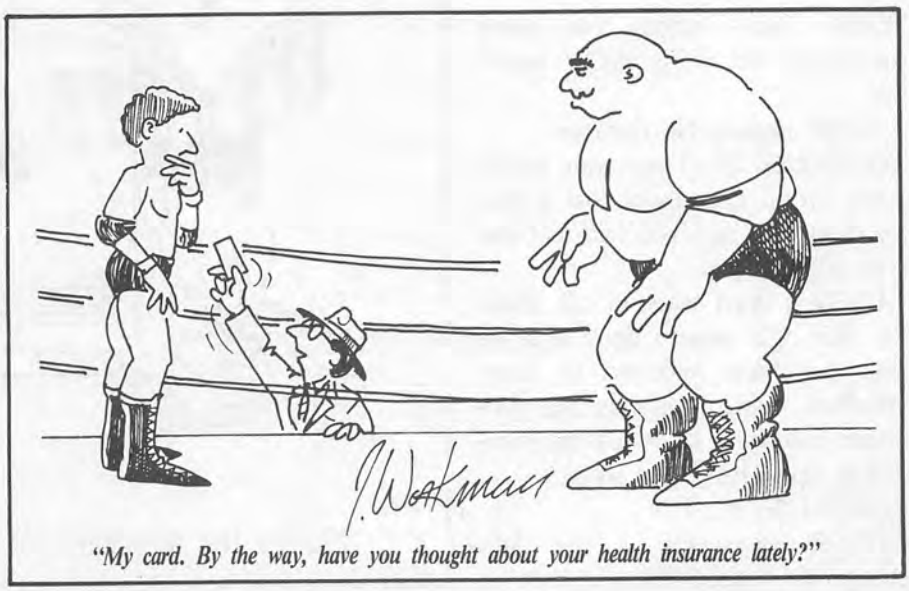
"That wimp isn't a man—he's a **sissy**," said an enraged Hyatt following the incident. "I know this sounds strange, but I want a match against that guy—with the loser to stay off WCW TV shows for good. I'm a better broadcaster than Paul E., and next I'm going to prove I'm a better **wrestler** than that woosy mama's boy, too."

WWF fans were shocked by the sudden retirement of manager **Bobby Heenan**, who has left ringside for a full-time career in the commentator's booth. Heenan assigned the contract of Intercontinental champion **"Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig** to WWF newcomer **Coach John Tolos**, who previously managed **Cactus Jack**, **The Power Twins**, and **Bob Orton** in the UWF.

"Bobby's been a manager for more than 25 years now," said a WWF wrestler close to Heenan who requested anonymity. "He just can't take all the pounding anymore. Lately, he's been nearly crippled after attacks by **Big Bossman** and **Kerry Von Erich**. But the 'Weasel' is still the 'Weasel.' He's just decided it's safer to call wrestlers names from the broadcast booth than it is from just a few feet away at ringside."

It's always welcome news when a new federation makes its debut. The Independent Wrestling Federation is becoming a hit in the Connecticut area. The IWF's first champion is rugged **"Godfather" Tony Capone**, who won a tournament final against **The Avalanche** on May 23 in Wallingford. **The Honky Tonk Man** and other top stars have ap-

Bobby Heenan has made a career out of interfering in his men's matches, but now he's decided to retire from managing and do his harassing from the broadcast booth full-time.



"My card. By the way, have you thought about your health insurance lately?"

peared under the IWF banner ... The wild **Tasmaniac** captured the IWCCW light heavyweight title from **Ray Odyssey** on June 5 in Brooklyn, New York ... **Rockin' Robin** won the first UWF women's title by defeating veteran **Candi Devine** during Beach Brawl, the UWF's first pay-per-view card on June 9 in Palmetto, Florida.

Former WWF champion Bob Backlund enjoyed a triumphant return to the ring, pinning Ivan Koloff at the UWF's first pay-per-view card.

Speaking of Beach Brawl, former WWF World champion **Bob Backlund** looked as competitive as ever in soundly thrashing another former WWF World titleholder, **Ivan Koloff**, in less than three minutes. Backlund, though, isn't sure that a full-time return to the ring wars is in his immediate future.

"I'm very pleased with the way I dominated Koloff," said a jubilant Backlund following his bout. "Returning to wrestling is tempting, but I've got to give it some more thought. I haven't competed on a regular basis in more than four years. I'm confident in my abilities, but I'm still busy with coaching amateurs." Personally, I hope Backlund continues grappling. It's a better sport with this kind of class act around.

Augie Weil, the father of wrestler and trainer **Larry Sharpe**, died on June 5 at his Gibbstown, New Jersey, home. Weil was a former New Jersey State Athletic Commission chairman as well as a promoter in southern New Jersey. Weil had been suffering from cancer of the lungs and lymph nodes. He was 64. □

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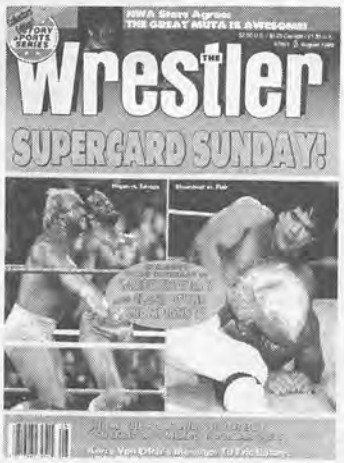

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DENVER—WWF at the Denver Coliseum: **Greg Valentine** beat **Crush** ... **Irwin R. Shyster** beat **Superfly Snuka** ... **The Bushwhackers** defeated **Power & Glory** when **Butch Miller** pinned **Paul Roma** ... **Bret Hart** beat **The Barbarian** ... **Ted DiBiase** beat **Virgil** ... **The Mountie** beat **Big Bossman** ... **Animal** beat **Jerry Sags** ... **The Ultimate Warrior** defeated **The Undertaker**.
(05-27-91)

—Mark Robinson

FLORIDA

PALMETTO—The UWF's Beach Brawl pay-per-view card at the Manatee Civic Center: **Boris Zukhov** pinned **Paul Johnson** in a match not shown on the pay-per-view telecast ... **The Blackharts** beat **Fire Cat** & **Jim Cooper** when **Apocalypse** pinned Cooper in 6:50 following a legdrop from the top turnbuckle ... **Terry Gordy** battled **Johnny Ace** (substituting for **Don Muraco**) to a double-countout in 6:26 ... **Brian Blair** & **Jim Brunzell** beat **The Power Twins** when Blair pinned **Larry** following a sunset flip in 13:03 ... **Rockin' Robin** became the first UWF women's champion by pinning **Candi Devine** with a rollup in 6:18 ... **Paul Orndorff** pinned **Col. DeBeers** in 3:28 of a strap match following a piledriver. After the pinfall, DeBeers jabbed Orndorff with a stun gun, but Orndorff quickly recovered ... **Bob Backlund** pinned **Ivan Koloff** with a reverse rollup and bridge at 2:25 ... **Steve Ray** & **Sunny Beach** beat **Bob Orton** & **Cactus Jack** when Ray pinned Cactus in 4:40 after Orton mistakenly hit Jack with brass knuckles. After the match, Orton and Jack brawled back to the dressing room ... **Steve Williams** became the UWF TV champion by pinning **Bam Bam Bigelow** in 8:43 following a powerslam.
(06-09-91)

—Donna Hubbard & Burton Crane

ST. PETERSBURG—WCW's Super Brawl '91, a pay-per-view event at the Bayfront Center: In an opening bout not seen on the pay-per-view broadcast, **Mighty Thor** pinned **El Cubano** in 8:00 ... **The Freebirds** won the vacant U.S. tag team title by defeating **The Young Pistols** in 10:19. **Michael Hayes** pinned **Steve Armstrong** after the new masked Freebird, **Fantasia**, stormed the ring and DDT'd both Armstrong and **Tracey Smothers** from the second rope ... **Dan Spivey** pinned **Rick Morton** in 3:11 following a power bomb ... **Nikita Koloff** pinned **Tommy Rich** in 4:07 following a clothesline ... **Dustin Rhodes** pinned **Terrence Taylor** in 8:05 after Taylor's bodyguard, **Mr. Hughes**, accidentally slugged Taylor with a loaded glove ... **Big Josh** pinned **Black Bart** (substituting for the injured **Larry Zbyszko**) in 3:46 after a sitdown splash ... **Oz**, making his WCW debut, pinned **Tim Parker** in 26 seconds following a spinning airplane slam ... **Barry Windham** pinned **Brian Pillman** in 6:08 of a bloody taped-fist match following a superplex ... **El Gigante** pinned **Sid Vicious** in 2:13 of a stretcher match following a clawhold. Following the pin, Gigante was attacked by **One Man Gang** and **Kevin Sullivan**, but drove them off ... **Ron Simmons** pinned **Butch Reed** in 9:39 of a "Thunderdoom" cage match. Manager **Teddy Long**, who was suspended from the ceiling in a small cage, tossed a chain into the ring. Reed grabbed the chain and lunged at Simmons, but Simmons ducked, rocked Reed with a spinebuster, and scored the pinfall ... WCW World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** defeated U.S. champion **Lex Luger** & **Sting** in 11:09 when Scott pinned Sting after Sting was blasted with a chain by **Nikita Koloff** ... **Bobby Eaton** pinned **Arn Anderson** in 11:50 to win the WCW TV title ... WCW World champion **Ric Flair** pinned **Tatsumi Fujinami** in 18:39.
(05-19-91)

—Burton Crane

TAMPA—WWF at the Sundome: **Rick Steamboat** pinned **Haku** ... Intercontinental champion **Curt Hennig** and **Davey Boy Smith** battled to a draw ... **The Mountie** pinned **Big Bossman** ... **Ted DiBiase** beat **Roddy Piper** when the referee stopped their match ... **Power & Glory** defeated **The Bushwhackers** when **Paul Roma** pinned **Luke Williams** ... **The Berzerker** pinned **Tugboat** ... **The Rockers** beat **The Orient Express** when **Marty Jannetty** pinned **Kato** ... **The Ultimate Warrior** defeated **The Undertaker** by disqualification.
(05-18-91)

—Donna Hubbard

GEORGIA

RIVERDALE—Georgia All-Star Wrestling at Sparkles Roller Rink: **Steve Young** beat **The Avenger** ... **Festus** beat **"Big Bully" Nick Busick** ... **Billy Black** & **Atom Steele** defeated **Scott White** & **David Holdt** ... **Fabian** beat **Steve Lawler**.
(05-27-91)

—Jo Ellen Hallmark

ATLANTA—WCW at The Omni: WCW TV champion **Bobby Eaton** beat **Jacko Victory** ... **Dustin Rhodes** defeated **Terrence Taylor** by disqualification when **Mr. Hughes** and **Rick Morton** interfered ... **Stan Hansen** pinned **Tommy Rich** ... **Missy Hyatt** beat **Paul E. Dangerously** in an arm-wrestling contest ... WCW World tag team champions **Rick & Scott Steiner** beat **The Angel of Death** & **Dan Spivey** when **Rick Steiner** pinned Angel ... **Ron Simmons** beat **One Man Gang** ... U.S. champion **Lex Luger** pinned **Nikita Koloff** ... WCW World champion **Ric Flair** beat **Brian Pillman** in a best-of-three-falls match ... **El Gigante** & **Sting** beat **Barry Windham** & **Arn Anderson** when Sting pinned Anderson.
(05-26-91)

—Ed Crawford

ILLINOIS

ROSEMONT—WWF at Rosemont Horizon: **Col. Mustafa** beat **Koko B. Ware** ... **Greg Valentine** beat **Smash** ... **Big Bossman** beat **The Mountie** ... **Davey Boy Smith** defeated **The Berzerker** ... **Earthquake** beat **Jake Roberts** by disqualification ... **Marty Jannetty** beat **Kato** ... **Kerry Von Erich** battled **The Warlord** to a double-countout ... **The Ultimate Warrior** beat **The Undertaker** by disqualification.
(05-31-91)

—Andy Abrahamson

CHAMPAIGN—WWF at Assembly Hall: **Col. Mustafa** made **Koko B. Ware** submit to a camel clutch ... **Big Bossman** pinned **The Mountie** ... **Earthquake** beat **Jake Roberts** by disqualification ... Intercontinental champion **Curt Hennig** pinned **Davey Boy Smith** ... **Greg Valentine** beat **Smash** ... **The Rockers** beat **The Orient Express** when **Marty Jannetty** pinned **Kato** ... **The Ultimate Warrior** beat **The Undertaker** by disqualification.
(05-30-91)

—Matthew Vaughan

INDIANA

HAMMOND—WCW at the Hammond Civic Center: **Black Bart** beat **Tommy Angel** ... **Steve Austin** defeated **Tommy Rich** ... **Junkyard Dog** pinned **Psycho Sam** ... **Oz** beat **Tom Zenk** ... **The Young Pistols** beat **The Freebirds** & **Badstreet** ... U.S. champion **Lex Luger** beat **Barry Windham**.
(06-05-91)

—Brett Wolfe

IOWA

WATERLOO—WCW at McElroy Auditorium: **Big Josh** pinned **The Cuban Assassin** ... **Dustin Rhodes** & **Ricky Morton** beat **Moondog Rex** & **Black Bart** when Rhodes pinned Bart ... **Black Blood** pinned **Sam Houston** ... **Ron Simmons** beat **Stan Hansen** by disqualification ... **El Gigante** beat **One Man Gang** by disqualification when **Kevin Sullivan** interfered ... **The Freebirds** & **Fantasia** defeated **The Young Pistols** & **Tommy Rich** when **Michael Hayes** pinned **Tracey Smothers** following a bulldog headlock from the top rope by Fantasia ... U.S. champion **Lex Luger** pinned **Nikita Koloff** with a small package.
(05-23-91)

—Jim Van Quathem

MAINE

ROCKLAND—IWCCW at Rockland District High School: **Sampson** of **The Billion-Dollar Babies** beat **Equalizer Zap** ... **Robbie Ellis** beat **Psycho** ... IWCCW tag team champions **The Billion-Dollar Babies** beat **Equalizers Zap** & **Zoom** when **G.Q. Stratus** pinned Zoom ... **Scott Putski** defeated **Black Knight I** ... **Ray Odyssey** beat **The Tasmaniac** by disqualification ... **Ivan Putski** beat **Tony Atlas** by disqualification when Atlas and his manager, **Tony Rumble**, hanged Putski from the top rope.
(06-03-91)

—Sal Perkins

This special feature is for all fans who want to know who won and who lost . . . and how. In it, we present results from a full month of action across the nation and around the world, culled from the pages of the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly* newsletter; readers of *PWI Weekly* received these results just days after the cards took place. If you would like to join professional wrestling's largest network of correspondents, write to: "Arena Report" c/o *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571.

PORTLAND—WWF at Cumberland County Civic Center: **Rick Steamboat** beat **Haku** . . . **Tugboat** pinned **The Barbarian** . . . **Irwin R. Shyster** beat **Superfly Snuka** . . . **Power & Glory** defeated **The Bushwhackers** . . . **Animal** beat **Jerry Sags** . . . **Sgt. Slaughter** beat **Hacksaw Duggan** . . . **Roddy Piper** won a 17-man battle royal after eliminating **Sgt. Slaughter**.
(05-30-91)

—Adam Lamontagne

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE—WCW at Baltimore Arena: **Black Blood** pinned **Tim Horner** . . . **Dustin Rhodes** & **Rick Morton** defeated **Dutch Mantel** & **Moondog Rex** when Rhodes pinned Rex . . . **Angel of Death** pinned **Sam Houston** . . . WCW TV champion **Bobby Eaton** pinned **Terrence Taylor** . . . **Missy Hyatt** defeated **Paul E. Dangerously** in an arm-wrestling contest after spraying hairspray in his face . . . **Barry Windham** pinned **Brian Pillman** in a taped-fist match . . . WCW World champion **Ric Flair** defeated **El Gigante** by countout . . . In a no-disqualification bout, WCW World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** defeated **Arn Anderson** & **One Man Gang** when Scott pinned Anderson. After the match, Gang and **Kevin Sullivan** attacked Anderson.
(06-07-91)

—Ray Ney

LANDOVER—WWF at the Capital Centre: **Tugboat** pinned **Steve Lombardi** . . . **Davey Boy Smith** pinned **The Berzerker** . . . **Rick Steamboat** pinned **Haku** . . . **Bret Hart** pinned **The Barbarian** . . . **Marty Jannetty** pinned **Kato** . . . **The Mountie** defeated **Big Bossman** by countout . . . **Ted DiBiase** beat **Roddy Piper** when the referee stopped the bout . . . **Sgt. Slaughter** defeated WWF World champion **Hulk Hogan** by disqualification.
(06-02-91)

—Ray Ney

MICHIGAN

SALINE—Motor City Wrestling at The Barn: **Byron Costello** battled **Cpl. Daniels** to a 15-minute draw . . . MCW women's champion **Sasha Sovietka** battled to a no-contest with **Angelika Blue**. After the match, MCW officials held up the belt . . . **The Masked Patriots** beat **The Untouchables** . . . **Red Thunder** used a clawhold to defeat **The Blacksmith** by submission.
(05-26-91)

—Kurt M. Schneider

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS—Pro Wrestling America at Windhom Park: **Teijho Khan** battled **Ricky Rice** to a double-countout . . . **Charlie Norris** beat **The Mystic** . . . **Rick Ferrara** beat **The Jungle Fighter** . . . **Baron Von Raschke** defeated **The Shocker** by disqualification . . . **Larry Cameron** beat **Norman** . . . **The Lightning Kid** & **Bill Irwin** beat **The Punishers** by disqualification.
(06-06-91)

—Steve Anderson

MISSISSIPPI

CALHOUN—Middle States Wrestling Association at the Calhoun Elementary School Gym: **Eddie Breland** won a battle royal . . . **The Quake** & **Desperado I** beat **Tommy James** & **Eddie Breland** . . . **Tommy James** beat **Sissy Boy** . . . **The Mercenaries** beat **Eddie Breland** & **The Lumberjack** . . . **The Lumberjack** beat **The Assassin**.
(06-01-91)

—Melissa Poore & Stan Davis

MISSOURI

JOPLIN—WCW at Memorial Hall: **Steve Ray** beat **T.C. Carter** . . . **Junkyard Dog** & **Steve Ray** beat **The Royal Family** . . . WCW TV champion **Bobby Eaton** beat **Terrence Taylor** . . . WCW World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat **Arn Anderson** & **The Angel of Death** . . . **Sting** beat **Barry Windham** by disqualification.
(05-21-91)

—Bret Wolfe

NEBRASKA

LINCOLN—WWF at Pershing Auditorium: **Kerry Von Erich** battled **The Warlord** to a double-countout . . . **Rick Steamboat** beat **Steve Lombardi** . . . **Luke Williams** defeated **Kato** . . . **Hacksaw Duggan** beat **Col. Mustafa** . . . **Ted DiBaise** beat **Virgil** . . . **Earthquake** beat **Jake Roberts** by disqualification . . . **The Ultimate Warrior** beat **The Undertaker** by disqualification.
(06-07-91)

—Bob Ulip

NEW HAMPSHIRE

WOLFEBORO—IWCCW at Kingswood Regional High School: IWCCW light heavyweight champion **Ray Odyssey** beat **Psycho** . . . **Joe Savoldi** beat **Equalizer Zap** . . . ICW champion **Tony Atlas** beat **Boss Hogg Cowhoon** . . . **The Billion-Dollar Babies** won the IWCCW tag team belts in a handicap match against **T.D. Madison** when Madison was pinned by **G.Q. Stratus**. **G.Q. Madison** was unable to appear due to a prematch attack by the Babies in the dressing room . . . **Curly Moe** pinned **Boss Hogg Cowhoon** . . . **The Billion-Dollar Babies** battled **Ivan & Scott Putski** to a double-disqualification . . . **The Tasmaniac** beat **T.D. Madison** . . . **Scott Putski** pinned **G.Q. Stratus** . . . **The Star Warrior** beat **Georgia Guerrilla I** . . . **Joe Savoldi** beat **Equalizer Zoom** . . . **The Star Warrior** beat **Equalizer Zap** . . . **Curly Moe** won a 20-man battle royal, simultaneously ousting **The Billion-Dollar Babies**.
(06-01-91)

—Terry Senerchia

NEW JERSEY

FLORENCE—WWA card at Florence, High School: **Jungle Jim McPherson** won the WWA junior heavyweight title from **Chris Candido** . . . **Chief Thunder Mountain** beat **The New Jersey Nightmare** . . . **The Spider** beat **Jimmy Atlas** by disqualification . . . **Chris Evans** & **Ray Odyssey** won the WWA tag team title from **The Lords of Darkness** . . . WWA champion **The Golden Phoenix** beat **Boy Gone Bad** . . . **Cactus Jack** beat **Morgus the Maniac** . . . **Bob Orton** battled **Nikolai Volkoff** to a double-countout.
(05-25-91)

—Adam Roughley

NEW YORK

BROOKLYN—IWCCW at Our Lady Of Grace School: **Samson** of **The Billion-Dollar Babies** pinned **Dusty Wolfe** after Samson's partner, **Stratus**, belted Wolfe with manager **Kevin "The Truth" Casey's** cane . . . **Samu** pinned **Cash Jackson** following a belly-to-back suplex from the second rope . . . ICW champion **Tony Atlas** pinned **Dusty Wolfe** following a gorilla-press and slam. When Atlas made challenges after the bout, he was dropkicked out of the ring by **Tito Santana** . . . **T.D. Madison** pinned **Equalizer Zap** after belting Zap with brass knuckles that Zap had brought into the ring . . . **The Tasmaniac** captured the IWCCW light heavyweight title from **Ray Odyssey** when Tasmaniac's manager, **Tony Rumble**, blasted Odyssey with his batting helmet . . . **Joe Savoldi** defeated **Samson** of **The Billion-Dollar Babies** by disqualification when **Stratus** interfered . . . **Scott Putski** pinned **Psycho** following a "Polish hammer" . . . **Mondo Kleen** pinned **Equalizer Zap** following a kneedrop . . . **Ivan Putski** pinned **Black Knight II** following a "Polish hammer" . . . In a non-title match, **Joe Savoldi** & **The Star Warrior** defeated IWCCW tag team champions **The Billion-Dollar Babies** . . . **Curly Moe** defeated **Psycho** . . . **Samu** beat **T.D. Madison** . . . **Little Louie** defeated **Tiger Jackson** . . . **The Honky Tonk Man** battled **Rick Rude** to a double-countout.
(06-05-91)

—Burton Crane

NEW YORK—WWF at Madison Square Garden: WWF World champion **Hulk Hogan** defeated **Sgt. Slaughter** in a "Desert Storm" match when **Gen. Adnan** threw in the towel . . . **Earthquake** beat **Jake Roberts** by disqualification . . . **Animal** pinned **Paul Roma** . . . **The Mountie** pinned **Big Bossman** after stunning him with his cattle prod . . . **Bret Hart** pinned **The Barbarian** . . . **Rick "The Dragon" Steamboat** pinned **Smash** . . . **Tugboat** pinned **Steve Lombardi** . . . **Warlord** pinned **Koko B. Ware** . . . **Jimmy Snuka** pinned **Bob Bradley** . . . **Col. Mustafa** defeated **Hacksaw Duggan** by countout.
(06-03-91)

—John Bello

OREGON

PORTLAND—PNW at the Sports Arena: **Mike Winner** defeated **C.W. Bergstrom** by reverse decision . . . PNW champion **Steve Doll** beat **The Grappler** by disqualification when **The Bruise Brothers**—**Ron** & **Don Harris**—interfered. As Doll was being triple-teamed by Grappler and the Harrises, several wrestlers unsuccessfully tried to save him. Then **Crush** of **Demolition** hit the ring, clotheslined all three men, and press-slammed each of them . . . **Bart Sawyer** pinned **Al Madril** . . . **Jimmy Jack Funk** pinned **Doug Masters** . . . **Larry Oliver** & **Bart Sawyer** defeated PNW tag team champions **The Bruise Brothers** by disqualification.
(06-08-91)

—Kenn Jones

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA—WCW at the Civic Center: **Black Blood** beat **Tim Horner** . . . **Terrence Taylor** beat **Bobby Eaton** . . . **Barry Windham** defeated **Brian Pillman** . . . WCW World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat **Arn Anderson** & **One Man Gang** . . . WCW World champion **Ric Flair** beat **El Gigante** by countout . . . **Dustin Rhodes** & **Rick Morton** beat **Dutch Mantel** & **Moondog Rex**.
(06-08-91)

—Alan Raskin

HERSHEY—WWF at Hersheypark Arena: **The Ultimate Warrior** beat **The Undertaker** by disqualification . . . **Davey Boy Smith** pinned **Berzerker** . . . **Ted DiBiase** beat **Virgil** . . . WWF World tag team champions **The Nasty Boys** beat **The Bushwhack-**

ers when **Brian Knobs** pinned **Luke Williams** ... **Marty Jannetty** beat **Kato** ... **Kerry Von Erich** pinned **Haku** ... **Irwin R. Shyster** beat **Grag Valentine**.
(06-03-91)

—Timothy A. Walker

PHILADELPHIA—Tri-State Wrestling Alliance's "Spring Spectacular" at the Philadelphia Civic Center's Pennsylvania Hall: **Spike** of **The Pit Bulls** won a 13-man "Ringmaster Rumble" battle royal after he and his partner, **Rex**, eliminated **Mr. Sandman**. This left the Bulls in the ring, so Rex hurled himself over the top rope to allow his partner to win. In order of elimination, other participants were: **John Rock**, **Rick Perez**, **Bulldog Brower Jr.**, **Johnny O**, **Glen Osbourne**, **C.N. Redd**, **Delaware Dynamo**, **Michael "Hit Man" Bruno**, **Cry Baby Waldo**, and **Tony Stetson** ... In the tournament final to determine the first Tri-State tag team champions, **Johnny Hot Body** & **Larry Winters** defeated **Jimmy Jannetty** & **Rockin' Rebel** when Hot Body pinned Jannetty after smashing him with one of the belts ... **Eddie Gilbert** battled **Cactus Jack** to a bloody no-contest in a barbed wire match. Gilbert had tried to hurl Jack over the top rope, but in trying to prevent himself from hitting the floor, Cactus got his head stuck between the first and second ropes and the barbed wire. After Gilbert piledrived referee **Joe Zanolle**, several wrestlers ran to the ring to end the match. Zanolle and Cactus Jack were treated by paramedics after the match ... **Al Perez** & **Buddy Landell** (substituting for **Austin Idol**) defeated **The Fabulous Ones—Stan Lane** & **Steve Keirn**—on a reversed decision. Lane pinned Perez after manager **Jim Cornette** smashed Perez with his tennis racket, but referee **John Finnegan** reversed the decision after the fans informed him of Cornette's actions. Although they had won, Landell and Perez beat up Finnegan after the decision ... Tri-State champion **D.C. Drake** pinned **J.T. Smith**. After the bout, Smith was chained to the ring barrier and ringpost by Drake, but was rescued by **Cry Baby Waldo** ... USWA champion **Jerry Lawler** defeated **The Honky Tonk Man** on a reversed decision. Honky Tonk scored the pin after **Dory Funk Jr.** appeared at ringside and tripped Lawler. When Lawler turned around to argue with Funk, Honky Tonk smashed Lawler in the back with a foreign object and scored the pin. After the fans objected, referee Finnegan reversed the decision. Funk and Honky Tonk tossed the referee from the ring, then ganged up on Lawler, with Funk locking Lawler in a spinning toehold, before leaving the ring for the dressing room ... **Paul Orndorff** defeated **Rick Rude** by disqualification when Rude smashed Orndorff with a chair.
(05-18-91)

—Bob Smith

TENNESSEE

KNOXVILLE—All-Star Wrestling at the Moses Center: **The Paradise City Rocker** beat **Sweet Marvin Gaye** ... **Don Lucas** & **Steve Flynn** beat **Los Lobos** & **Deke Rivers** ... **The Russian Enforcer** battled **Jackie Reed** to a double-disqualification ... All-Star tag team champions **Chris Powers** & **T.J. Travis** beat **Joe Cazana** & **Steve Flynn** ... **Johnny Meadows** beat **The Paradise City Rocker** and unmasked him, revealing him to be **Jeff Sword**.
(06-08-91)

—Bill Needham

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Pipkin Building: **Chris Candido** wrestled **Dan Davis** to a double-countout ... **Brian Christopher** defeated **The Texas Ranger** by disqualification ... **Bill Dundee** pinned **The Headhunter** ... **Dr. Tom Prichard** pinned **Tony Anthony** ... USWA tag team champions **Jeff Jarrett** & **Robert Fuller** defeated **Tex Salinger** & **Master Blaster** in a best-of-three-falls match ... **Eddie** & **Doug Gilbert** beat **Eric Embry** & **Tom Prichard** by disqualification when Salinger and Master Blaster interfered. Eventually, Jarrett, Fuller, **Texas Outlaw**, and **Jerry Lawler** all got involved.
(06-03-91)

—Mark Mitchell

TEXAS

HOUSTON—Texas All-Pro at the Unicorn Ballroom: **The Night Breeder** beat **Rick Garren** ... **Chaz** beat **Sputnik Monroe** ... **The Gladiator** beat **Dr. Kirk Vain** ... **The American Breed** beat **The Black Assassin** & **Hog Young** ... **G.I. Bro** defeated **Rudy Romero** ... **Tiger Conway Jr.** beat **Wichita Willie** ... **Tugboat Tyler** battled **Super Collider** to a double-disqualification.
(06-09-91)

—Bob Miller

DALLAS—USWA at the Sportatorium: USWA Southern champion **Eric Embry** pinned **Dan Davis** after hitting him with a chain handed to him by **Tojo Yamamoto** ... **Tony Anthony** pinned **Terry Daniels** ... **Jeff Jarrett** & **Gary Young** defeated **Master Blaster** & **Tex Salinger** when Jarrett pinned Blaster ... **Chris Candido** pinned **El Grande Pistolero** ... **Dr. Tom Prichard** pinned **Bill Dundee** to capture the USWA Texas title after knocking him out with Yamamoto's suitcase ... **Sweet Georgia Brown** defeated **Madelyn Collins**.
(06-07-91)

—Freddie Fargo

FT. WORTH—NAWA at the Stagecoach Ballroom: **Mike Reed** defeated **Ninja Turtle** by disqualification ... **Larry Green** pinned **Ray Evans** ... **Steve Dane** pinned **Kit Carson** ... In a non-title match, **"Rattlesnake" Jeff Raitz** pinned NAWA champion **Killer Brooks** to earn a title shot ... **Bull Man Downs** pinned **Kenny the Stinger**.
(06-03-91)

—Joyce Dillon

HOUSTON—WCW at Sam Houston Coliseum: **Steve Austin** defeated **Sam Houston** ... **Brian Pillman** pinned **Arn Anderson** in a taped-fist match ... **Dustin Rhodes** & **Rick Morton** beat **Angel of Death** & **Black Bart** when Rhodes pinned Bart; Morton left the ring during the bout ... **The Young Pistols** defeated **Michael Hayes** & **Fantasia** when **Tracey Smothers** pinned Fantasia ... WCW TV champion **Bobby Eaton** pinned **Terrence Taylor** ... U.S. champion **Lex Luger** fought **Nikita Koloff** to a double-disqualification ... **Sting** pinned **Barry Windham** ... **El Gigante** defeated WCW World champion **Ric Flair** by disqualification when Windham interfered ... **Junkyard Dog** & **Ron Simmons** beat **One Man Gang** & **Butch Reed** in a steel cage bout when Simmons pinned Reed.
(05-31-91)

—Bob Miller

DALLAS—WWF at Reunion Arena: **Hacksaw Duggan** pinned **Col. Mustafa** ... Intercontinental champion **Curt Hennig** pinned **Davey Boy Smith** ... **Jake Roberts** beat **Earthquake** by disqualification ... **The Rockers** beat **The Orient Express** when **Marty Jannetty** pinned **Pat Tanaka** ... **Berzerker** pinned **Tugboat** ... **Rick Steamboat** pinned **Steve Lombardi** ... **The Ultimate Warrior** beat **The Undertaker** by disqualification.
(05-25-91)

—Freddie Fargo

VIRGINIA

NORFOLK—WCW at the Norfolk Scope: **Black Blood** defeated **Tim Horner** ... **Rick Morton** & **Dustin Rhodes** beat **Dutch Mantel** & **Moondog Rex** when Rhodes pinned Rex; Morton walked out on Rhodes halfway through the match ... **P.N. News** defeated **Angel of Death** ... WCW TV champion **Bobby Eaton** beat **Terrence Taylor** ... **Diamond Stud** defeated **Sam Houston** ... WCW World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat **One Man Gang** & **Arn Anderson** when Scott pinned Anderson ... WCW World champion **Ric Flair** pinned **Brian Pillman**.
(06-06-91)

—Eddie Cheslock

WISCONSIN

MILWAUKEE—WWF at the Bradley Center: **Ted DiBiase** defeated **Roddy Piper** ... **Greg Valentine** pinned **Smash** ... **The Berzerker** defeated **Tugboat** ... **The Rockers** defeated **The Orient Express** ... **The Bushwhackers** beat **Power & Glory** when **Luke Williams** pinned **Paul Roma** ... **Kerry Von Erich** and **The Warlord** were both counted out ... **Big Bossman** pinned **The Mountie** ... WWF World champion **Hulk Hogan** pinned **Sgt. Slaughter**.
(05-19-91)

—Andy Abrahamson & Luis Cabrera

INTERNATIONAL

CANADA

MONTREAL, QUEBEC—WWF at the Forum: **Irwin R. Shyster** beat **Superfly Snuka** ... **The Bushwhackers** beat **Power & Glory** ... **Roddy Piper** beat **Ted DiBiase** by disqualification when Shyster interfered ... **Tugboat** beat **Steve Lombardi** ... **Rick Steamboat** pinned **Haku** ... **Animal** beat **Jerry Sags** ... **Kerry Von Erich** battled to a double-countout against **The Warlord** ... WWF World champion **Hulk Hogan** pinned **Sgt. Slaughter**.
(06-01-91)

—Bertrand Herbert

ENGLAND

STOKE ON TRENT—All-Star Wrestling at Victoria Hall: **Danny Boy Collins** defeated **Vic Powers** ... **Soldier Boy Prince** batled **Kashmir Singh** to a draw ... **Kendo Nagasaki** & **Blondie Barrett** beat **Dave Taylor** & **Steve Adonis** ... **Kendo Nagasaki** won a 10-man battle royal.
(05-11-91)

—David Wright

NORWICH—Independent card at the Corn Exchange: **Tony St. Clair** knocked out **Mad Dog Wilson** with a piledriver ... **Akira Nogami** battled **Mike Bennett** to a no-contest ... The match between **Johnny Saint** and **Steve Grey** was announced as a draw when Grey had to leave after sustaining a knee injury ... **The Superflies** beat **Alan** & **Adam Kilby**.
(05-11-91)

—John Bultitude

STOKE ON TRENT—All-Star Wrestling at Victoria Hall: **Big Daddy** & **Boz Barry** defeated **Dave Adams** & **The Mask** in a best-of-three-falls contest ... **Tony Stuart** beat **Texas Tornado** in a best-of-three-falls contest ... **Ian McGregor** pinned **Paul Powers** ... **Kid Sox** & **Mike Weaver** defeated **Wildman Wilkie** & **Keith Myatt** by disqualification.
(05-04-91)

—David Wright

JAPAN

TOKYO—All-Japan at Budokan Hall: **Isamu Teranishi** defeated **Mutsuo Mimota** ... **Mighty Inoue** pinned **Mike Golden** ... **Joel Deaton** & **Randy Rose** defeated **Haruka Eigen** & **Motoshi Okuma** ... **The State Patrol** beat **Richard Slinger** & **Yoshinari Ogawa** ... **Shohei Baba**, **Rusher Kimura**, & **Masa Fuchi** defeated **Abdullah the Butcher**, **Kamala**, & **Kamala II** ... All-Japan Asian tag team champions **Dan Kroffat** & **Doug Furnas** beat **Kenta Kobashi** & **Tsuyoshi Kikuchi** ... **Steve Williams** pinned **Toshiaki Kawada** ... **Mitsuhara Misawa** pinned **Terry Gordy** ... PWF International tag team champions **Stan Hansen** & **Dan Spivey** defeated **Jumbo Tsuruta** & **Akira Taue**.
(06-01-91)

—Yoshi Tamasa

OSAKA—New Japan at Osaka Castle Hall, celebrating **Tatsumi Fujinami's** 20th anniversary as a pro: **Seiji Aoyagi** & **Shiro Koshinaka** defeated **Black Cat** & **Kuniaki Kobayashi** ... **Steve Keirn**, **Kengo Kimura**, & **Osamu Kido** beat **Miguel Perez Jr.**, **Pegasus Kid**, & **Super Strong Machine** when Keirn pinned Perez ... **Masunobu Kurisu** & **Kim Duk** defeated **Hiro Saito** & **Tatsutoshi Goto** ... **Great Muta** & **Riki Choshu** beat **TNT** & **Bam Bam Bigelow** when Muta pinned Bigelow ... **Shinya Hashimoto** defeated **Randy Thornton** in a martial arts match ... IWGP junior heavyweight champion **Norio Honaga** pinned **Jushin Riger** ... **Scott Norton** beat **Big Van Vader** ... WCW World and IWGP tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner**

defeated **Hiro Hase** & **Kensuke Sasaki** when Scott pinned Hase . . . IWGP champion **Tatsumi Fujinami** forced **Masa Chono** to submit.
(05-31-91)

—Mikihiro Nagasi

MEXICO

JUAREZ—Idolos/Wild World Promotions at the Municipal Gymnasium: **Sable, Abdull El Esclavo,** & **Drago** beat **Kendo Star, Gacela Del Ring,** & **Dragon Chino** . . . **Zorro** & **Latigo** beat **Atlantic Jr.** & **Black Diamond** . . . **Astro Boy** & **Fuerza Chicana** beat **Espinto IV** & **V** . . . **Tony Rodriguez** & **Freddie Krueger** beat **Sensational Samurai** & **The Gladiator** . . . **El Cobarde, Rocky Starr,** & **Crazy Boy II** beat **Cinta De Oro, The Angel,** & **Tigre De Bengala.**
(05-30-91)

—Art Amaral

PUERTO RICO

CAGUAS—World Wrestling Council at Caguas Arena: WWC Universal champion **Carlos Colon** beat **The Polynesian Prince** . . . **Invader I** & **The Giant Warrior** beat **King Kong** & **Rod Price** . . . **Super Medic III** beat **Action Jackson** . . . **Hurricane Castillo Jr.** defeated **Billy Travis** . . . **Ricky Santana** beat WWC junior heavyweight champion **Ricky Santana** by disqualification . . . **El Gran Mendoza** beat **Tito Carreon.**
(05-25-91)

—Alberto Wences

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO—AWA at Comiskey Park: **Larry Hennig** defeated **Red Bastien** . . . **Pepper Gomez** defeated and unmasked **Double X,** revealing him to be **Red Osbourne** . . . **Bobo Brazil** and **Dr. Bill Miller** battled to a 20-minute draw . . . **Wilbur Snyder** defeated **Mitsu Arakawa** . . . **Linda Klein** & **Betty Niccoli** defeated **Jean Antone** & **Lucille Dupre** . . . **Blackjack Lanza** and **Ernie Ladd** battled to a double-disqualification . . . **Paul Diamond** defeated **Dr. X** . . . AWA champion **Verne Gagne** defeated **Baron Von Raschke** in a best-of-three-falls contest . . . AWA tag team champions **Mad Dog Vachon** & **Butcher Vachon** defeated **Bruiser** & **Crusher** in a cage match.
(08-14-70)

—Jerry Greenburg

MINNESOTA

ST. PAUL—AWA at the St. Paul Civic Center: **Otto Wanz** pinned **Nick Bockwinkel** to capture the AWA title . . . **Greg Gagne** & **Jim Brunzell** defeated **Tito Santana** & **Rick Martel** . . . **Ken Patera, Bobby Duncum,** & **Jesse Ventura** battled **Baron Von Raschke, Larry Hennig,** & **Brad Rheingans** to a no-contest . . . **Bobby Heenan** defeated **Ray Stevens** by disqualification . . . **Buck Zumhofe** defeated **Kenny Jay** . . . **Steve Olsonowski** downed **Sgt. Jacques Goulet.**
(08-29-82)

—Pro Wrestling Illustrated

NEW YORK

BROOKLYN—A card at Coney Island Stadium: NWA champion **Jim Londos** defeated **Koli Kwariani** with an airplane spin in 33:35 . . . **Joe "Toots" Mondt** downed **Sergi Kalmikoff** in 22:05 with a headlock . . . **George Calza** downed **Dr. Ralph Wilson** in 25:10 with a series of flying mares . . . **Morton B. Jackson** downed **Fucclinanco Caroni** in 11:30 with a headlock . . . **Stanislaus Zbyszko** beat **Vanka Zelesniak** in 17:05 with a toehold.
(08-04-31)

—Daily Mirror

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VOLUME XII, No.7 JULY 1991

WRESTLING ENQUIRER

MORTON TURNS AGAINST GIBSON!

Former Rock 'n' Roll Mates Sing Sour Tune

By BOB SMITH

KNOXVILLE, TN—The Rock 'n' Roll Express is no more. Though fans of the legendary team saw it coming, they were still stunned when Rick Morton attacked his former partner, Robert Gibson, during Clash of the Champions XV on June 12 at the Civic Center here.

Early on the card, Morton attacked Dustin Rhodes as the "Natural" battled Terrence Taylor. Alexandra York later announced that Morton had signed on as the newest member of her rulebreaking clique.

Gibson, who has been out of action since September with a severely injured left knee, entered the ring to question Morton about his decision. Moments later, Morton said, "I've been waiting to do this for 10 years"—and hit Gibson with a fist across the face. Morton followed up the attack with a brutal piledriver before Rhodes stormed the ring to stop the brutality.

"I ain't foolin' around," bragged Morton, who has formed a team with Taylor. "No more rock 'n' roll rags for me—and no more Robert Gibson. I waited eight months for him to come back, but I don't wait for *anybody*. Ms. York has promised I'm gonna make more money than ever before."

"This *can't* be happening," said a somber Gibson, who was hurt both emotionally and physically after the attack. "Ricky's gone bad, sour . . . The doctors have told me I'm not quite ready to return, but I don't care. Rick's gonna regret blindsiding me for the rest of his natural life."

Rick Morton and Robert Gibson are through as a team after Morton attacked his longtime partner.

LOD's Hawk Out Of Action

By DAVE ROSENBAUM

TUCSON, AZ—The Legion Of Doom, seemingly a lock to capture the WWF World tag team title from The Nasty Boys, has been temporarily halted. Hawk was hospitalized in June when he underwent surgery to correct a herniated disk.

The powerful 277-pound Chicago native was expected to be out of action for up to six weeks, taking the previously surging LOD out of the rankings.

Hawk has been sidelined with a herniated disk.

"This is a real blow to both Hawk and Animal," said a WWF source. "The LOD defeated The Nastys every time they met—*every* time! Sure, the wins were by disqualifications or countouts, but it always seemed the Legion was just one more win away from grabbing the gold. This is a real disappointment—especially considering what's been happening since Hawk went down."

Taking the place of the LOD against the champions have been The Bushwhackers and The Rockers, but both teams failed miserably against the brutal Brian Knobs and Jerry Sags. The tag team roster in the WWF has become so weak that The Hart Foundation—Bret Hart and Jim Neidhart—reformed, and has been granted title opportunities.

Pillman's Future A Mist

By ANDY RODRIGUEZ

ATLANTA—"Flyin' " Brian Pillman will soar from the ropes no more. The popular former Cincinnati Bengal was the victim of a pin in the tag team match pitting he and El Gigante against Barry Windham and Arn Anderson at Clash of the Champions XV on June 12 in Knoxville, Tennessee, and, according to a prematch stipulation, he must leave WCW.

Pillman and El Gigante started strongly, but Flyin' Brian was a pinfall victim after being kicked in the face by Windham.

"I really don't know what I'm going to do," said Pillman as he cleaned out his locker at the Center Stage Theater. "I guess this was a match stipulation I shouldn't have agreed to, but I was really confident going into that match. I had beat both Anderson and Windham, and I was hoping to rid WCW of one of them. Now, I guess WCW is rid of *me.*"

Brian Pillman isn't flyin' in WCW anymore.

Gigante isn't about to let the departure of Pillman, one of his closest friends, go without seeking revenge. The undefeated 7'7" giant now wants either Windham or Anderson in a match—with the same stipulation.

"No way those bad boys beat *me,*" said an angry Gigante.

Lawler Makes USWA Comeback

By CRAIG PETERS

MEMPHIS—USWA champion Jerry Lawler is back in action following an extended vacation. "The King's" doctors warned Lawler to take a rest to allow his neck, arm, and back injuries to heal, and he missed six weeks of title defenses. Lawler returned to action by defeating the huge Texas Ranger in a non-title bout on June 10 at the Pipkin Building here.

"A lot of people are getting on me for taking on Ranger without putting up the belt," said Lawler after his triumphant return. "Well, I can't help that. I feel better—a *lot* better—but I'm a bit rusty now. A couple of more matches, and I'll be able to defend my belt—and run those slugs Tom Prichard and Eric Embry out of the USWA once and for all."

Prichard, the current Texas champion, doesn't buy Lawler's excuse. He's demanding that USWA President Max Andrews strip Lawler of the title for not defending it within a 30-day period.

"Lawler's a paper champion," barked the arrogant Prichard. "Andrews should just hand me that belt—or hand it to [Southern champion] Eric Embry. Either of us would make a more honorable champion than that oldtimer, anyway."

AROUND THE GLOBE

TOKYO, JAPAN

Randy Savage, currently in enforced retirement from the WWF, is quickly becoming one of the most popular competitors in Super World Sports. Savage had a violent falling-out with his tag team partner, Haku, after they teamed to defeat Genichiro Tenryu and George Takano on May 23. After the pinfall, Haku was brutally kicking Tenryu, and Savage pleaded with him to stop. Haku ended the argument by breaking a chair over Savage's head. Now, Savage and Tenryu have formed a team in hopes of driving Haku from Japan. "I never thought I'd team with Savage," admitted Tenryu, "but I must admit he's quite a good partner."

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

Ageless Mil Mascaras keeps going on and on. The 27-year veteran teamed with Tinieblas and Tinieblas Jr. to defeat Mascara Ano 2000, Universo 200, and Satanico by disqualification on May 26. "I'm getting older, but my skills have not waned," said Mascaras, the "Man of 1,000 Masks," after the victory. "I just don't feel the need to quit. Wrestling will always be my true love."

OSAKA, JAPAN

Rick and Scott Steiner made a successful defense of their IWGP tag team title at the sellout card on May 23 honoring Antonio Inoki's 20th anniversary in the sport. The Steiners defeated Hiro Hase and Kensuke Sasaki when Scott blasted Hase with his "Frankensteiner." "We really dig wrestling in Japan," said Rick. "I really like the way the fans get so intense. It's great!"

CAREER CLOSEUP

LEX LUGER

Hometown: Chicago, IL
Height: 6'5"
Weight: 290
Years Pro: 6
Favorite Maneuver: "human torture rack" backbreaker
Titles Held: WCW U.S. (1987, 1989, 1989-90, 1990-present); WCW World tag (1988, with Barry Windham); Bahamas (1986); Southern (1985-86, 1986, 1986-87)

The "Total Package" is one of the sport's most impressive physical specimens . . . Born in Chicago, Luger has lived in New York and Florida . . . Attended the University of Florida on a football scholarship and played offensive guard . . . Also played basketball and wrestled in college . . . Kicked off the football team for bad behavior and immediately contacted the Canadian Football League . . . At the age of 19, became the youngest player in CFL history . . . Played offensive tackle for the Montreal Alouettes from 1979-81 . . . Signed with the Green Bay Packers . . . In 1984, jumped to the United States Football League and played with the Memphis Showboats until 1985 . . . After six years of professional football, decided to quit . . . Got into pro wrestling after meeting Bob Roop at a celebrity golf tournament . . . Roop introduced him to trainer Hiro Matsuda . . . In his pro debut in Daytona Beach, Florida, on October 31, 1985, defeated Ed Gantner . . . Only 19 days later, beat Wahoo McDaniel for the Southern title . . . Feuded with Barry and Kendall Windham . . . Lost the Southern belt to Jesse Barr on January 15, 1986 . . . Regained the title from Barr on February 14 . . . Appeared to be on the verge of winning the WCW World title from Ric Flair on June 9 in Orlando, Florida, after winning the first of three falls . . . Was attacked by Sir Oliver Humperdink's men during the intermission and sent to the hospital . . . Beat Ron Bass for the Bahamas title on June 13 . . . Lost the Southern title to Masked Superstar on July 22 when his foot got caught in the ropes and Superstar struck him with a weapon he had loaded in his mask . . . Regained the belt from Superstar one week later . . . On September 1, battled Flair to a 60-minute draw in a best-of-three-falls contest . . . Voted *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* "Rookie of the Year" for 1986 . . . After losing the Southern title to Kevin Sullivan in January 1987, left Florida for WCW, where he became associated with The Four Horsemen . . . Officially became a member of the group in March when Ole Anderson was kicked out . . . Defeated Nikita Koloff to win the U.S. title on July 11 at the Greensboro, North Carolina, Great American Bash . . . Lost the belt to Dusty Rhodes at Starrcade '87 in Chicago . . . Split with the Horsemen in December after he was attacked by Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson when he refused to let manager J.J. Dillon win a battle royal . . . Teamed with Windham to capture the WCW World tag team title from Blanchard and Anderson on March 27, 1988, at the first Clash of the Champions . . . Weeks later, Windham turned against him and joined the Horsemen . . . Teamed with Sting to win the Crockett Cup tag team tournament in Greensboro . . . Began an intense pursuit of Flair's WCW World title . . . At the Great American Bash in Baltimore on July 10, 1988, appeared to have won the title, but an official from the Maryland State Athletic Commission stopped the match because Luger was bleeding from the forehead . . . Lost to Flair in another controversial bout at Starrcade '88 on December 26 . . . The Flair-Luger rivalry was voted 1988's Feud of the Year by *PWI* readers . . . Went after Windham's U.S. title, which he won at Chi-Town Rumble on February 20, 1989 . . . Was upset by Michael Hayes at Music City Showdown on May 7 in Nashville, Tennessee . . . Regained the belt from Hayes just 15 days later in Bluefield, West Virginia . . . Turned bad at Clash of the Champions VII at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on June 14, attacking Rick Steamboat after Steamboat's bout with Terry Funk . . . Defeated Steamboat by disqualification at the Great American Bash in Baltimore on July 23 . . . Finished second in the Iron Man competition at Starrcade '89 on December 13 in Atlanta . . . Appeared to have Flair defeated at Wrestle War '90 on February 25 at Greensboro, but gave up his chance to win when he saved the injured Sting from the Horsemen . . . That made him a fan favorite again . . . In a cage match at Capital Combat '90 on May 19 in Washington, D.C., Luger again seemed to have beaten Flair for the World title, but the Horsemen found a way to interfere and again deny Luger . . . Lost the U.S. belt to Stan Hansen at Halloween Havoc in Chicago on October 27 . . . Regained the title from Hansen in a bullrope match at Starrcade '90 in St. Louis on December 16 . . . After he successfully defended the title against Dan Spivey at Wrestle War '91 in Phoenix on February 24, Nikita Koloff was supposed to present him with a new U.S. belt, but Koloff attacked him with it instead . . . An intense feud between them followed . . . Received a severe reprimand from WCW officials after striking the referee following a defense against Koloff on April 4 in East Rutherford, New Jersey . . . He and Sting lost to WCW World tag team champions Rick and Scott Steiner in a classic tag team bout at Super Brawl in St. Petersburg, Florida, on May 19, due to Koloff's interference . . . As he continues the defense of his U.S. belt, the "Total Package" appears headed toward another World title showdown with his old nemesis Flair. □

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED
LEX LUGER
The Total Package

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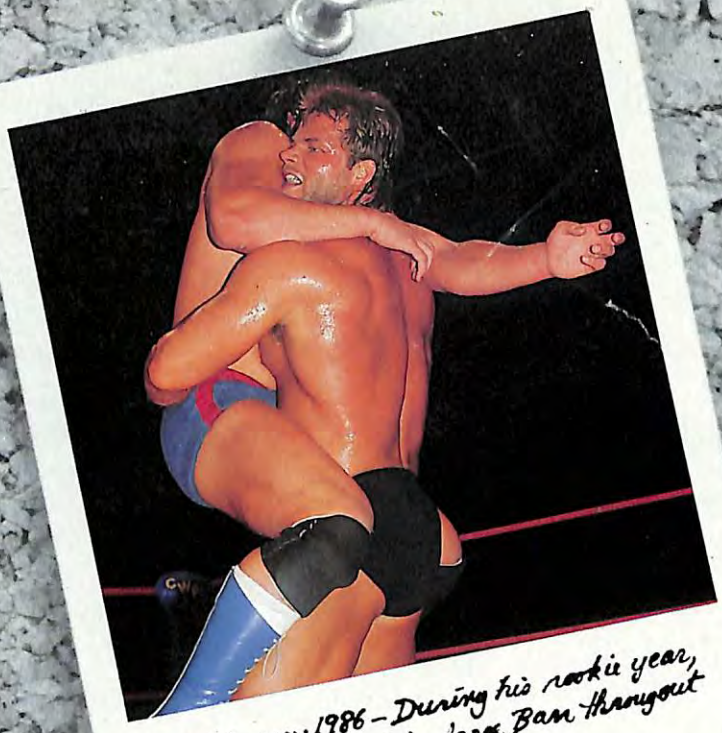
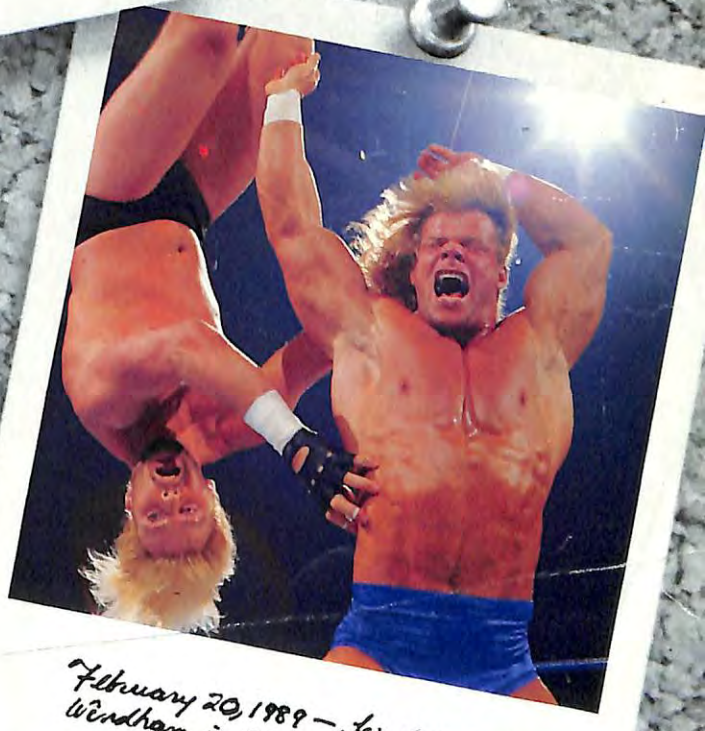
LEX LUGER

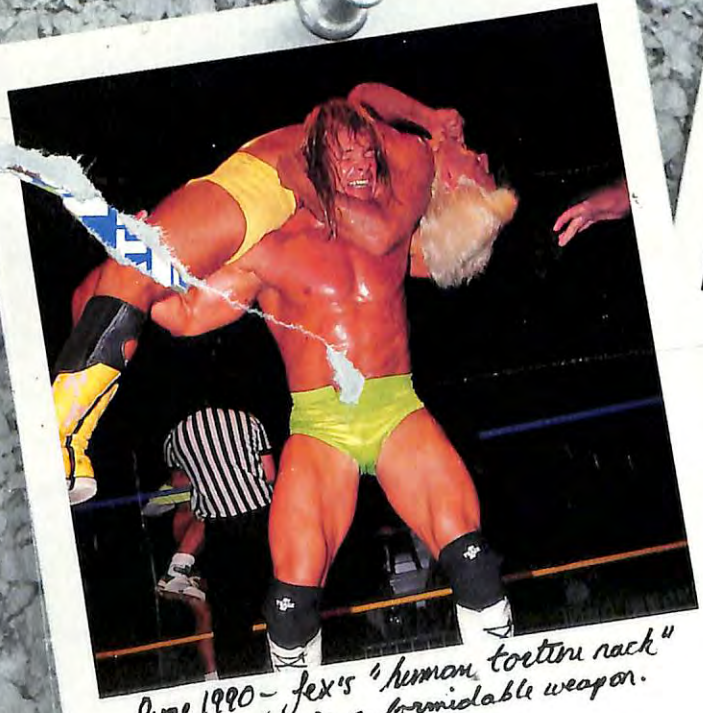
The Total Package



February 1986 – During his rookie year, Sex feuded with Jesse Barr throughout Florida.

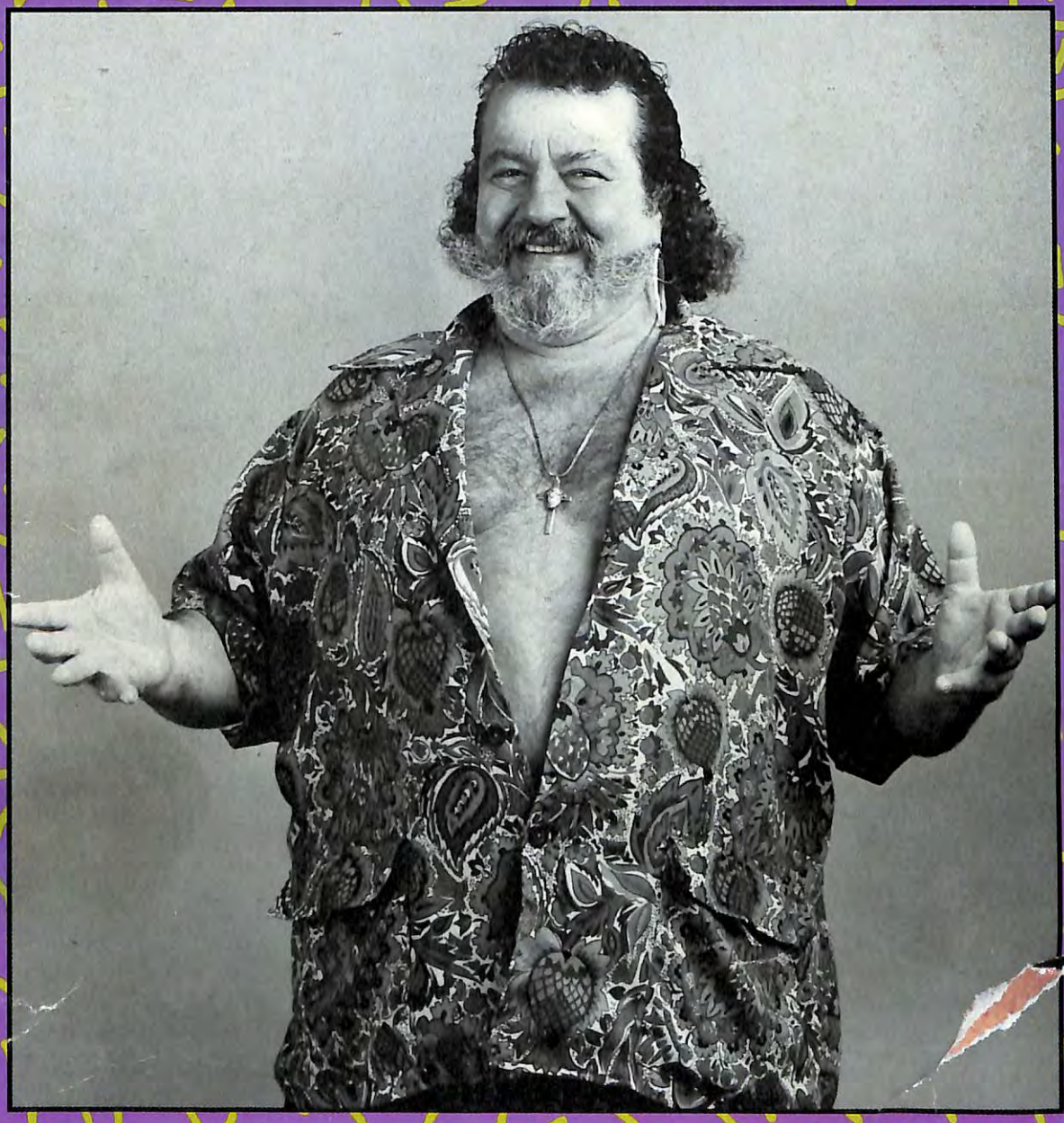


February 20, 1989 – Sex defeat Barry Windham in Chicago to capture his second U.S. Heavyweight title.



June 1990 – Sex's "human tortilla rack" backbreaker is a formidable weapon. Just ask Ric Flair!

CAPTAIN LOU ALBANO TALKS OFF THE CUFF AND CUTS NO SLACK!



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